

Bolingbroke, Henry St. John, 1678-1751

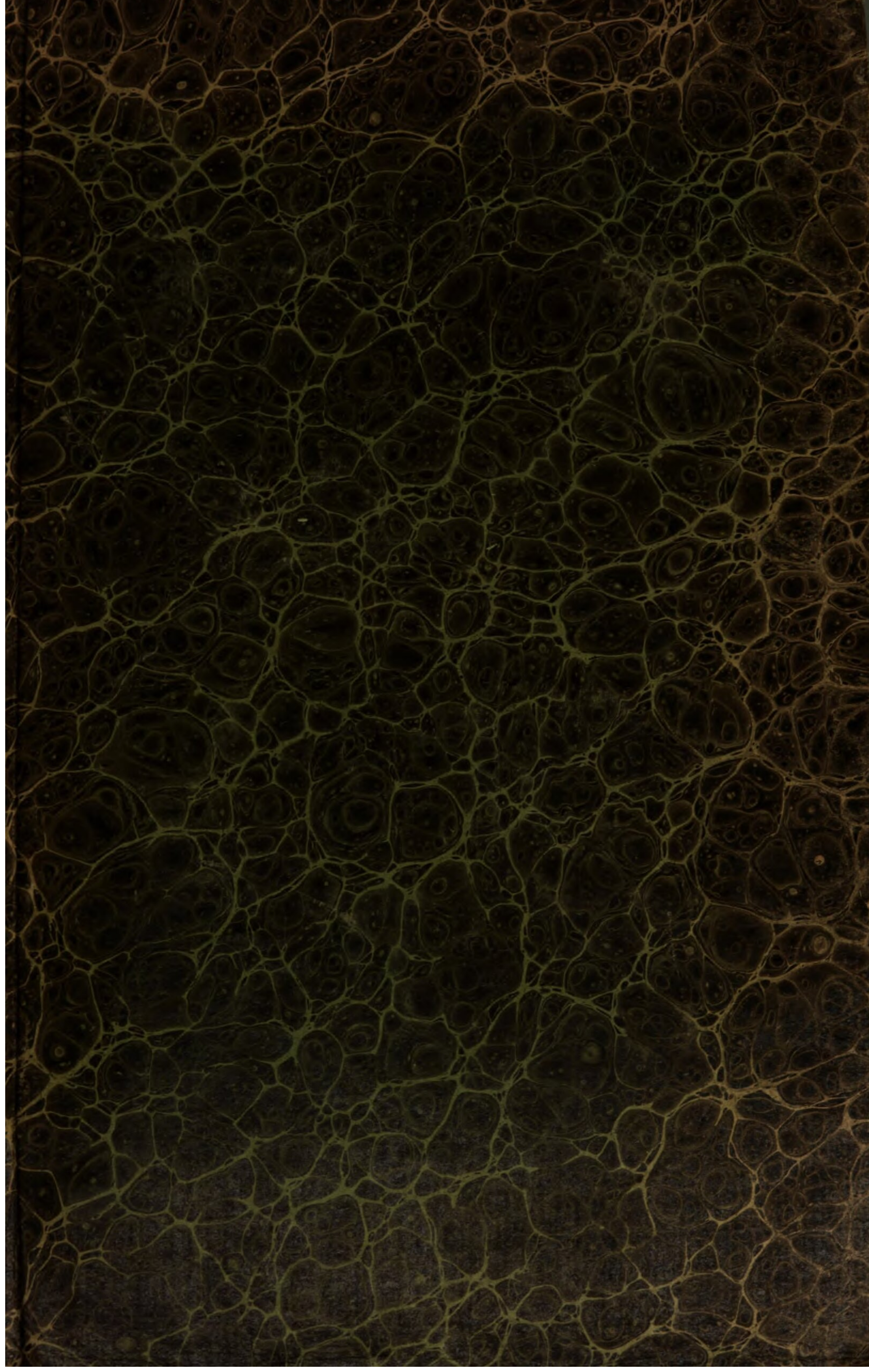
Letters and Correspondence, public and private of the Right Honourable
Henry St. John, lord visc. Bolingbroke, during the time he was Secretary
of State to Queen Anne

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LETTERS
AND
CORRESPONDENCE,
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE,
OR
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE HENRY ST. JOHN,
LORD VISC. BOLINGBROKE;
DURING THE TIME HE WAS
SECRETARY OF STATE
TO
QUEEN ANNE;

WITH
STATE PAPERS, EXPLANATORY NOTES, AND A
TRANSLATION OF THE FOREIGN LETTERS, &c.

By GILBERT PARKE, WADH. COLL. OXON.
CHAPLAIN TO HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS
THE PRINCE OF WALES.

VOL. IV.

L O N D O N:

PRINTED FOR G. G. AND J. ROBINSON, PATERNOSTER-ROW.

1798.

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LETTERS

AND

CORRESPONDENCE, &c.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.*

SINCE I writ this letter, I received your Grace's of the 31st, by which I find you was under the same apprehensions, and in the same sentiments as the Queen, and those who have the honour to serve her here are. I hope my Lords Plenipotentiaries will on my last dispatch, have taken the resolution of signing immediately. My Lord Treasurer wrote very plainly to them, and the Queen was so uneasy that she once designed to have writ herself to them.

* Inserted as a postscript to the letter to his Grace of the 24th of March, 1712-13.

From Mr. Prior.

MY LORD,

Paris, March 7-18th, 1713.

I HAVE nothing to add to the inclosed † but that the contents of it gives an universal joy here, as I hope it will do on your side; in three or four days, we shall send you the attested copies of every part of this transaction in as authentic a manner, as the nature of the thing and the custom of this kingdom admit: we expect every day news from London, taking it for granted that the Parliament met on Tuesday, this is Saturday; and by the messenger, which you have sent away before now, I hope to hear a word from you concerning myself, which you will think absolutely necessary, considering how small a time there will be between the signing the peace, and the Duke of Shrewsbury's making his entry. In this I refer myself to your particular friendship, and for all your favours I can only tell you, that we remember Henry
de la manière du monde la plus amiable.

Your's ever,

MATT.

† Sent to Mr. Tilson. BOLINGBROKE.

Monsieur

Monfieur and Madame de Torcy charge me with their particular respects; I eat maigre with them to-day, and we all played the fool as much as people could well do.

P.S. I concerted the gazette yesterday with Monfieur Torcy, and I believe you will find it just as to the naming the Duke of Shrewsbury, or Duc d'Offune; one being named first as marked (1), and t'other first as marked (2).

The Gazette being this moment printed, I add it. Your's my Lord, ever,

M. PRIOR.

From Mr. Prior.

MY LORD,

Paris, March 25th, 1713.

THE Duke of Shrewsbury has informed your Lordship that I have forwarded your directions of the 3d, to Mr. Gilligan; I add the copy of the letter * I had writ to him before

* *Copy of Mr. Prior's letter to Mr. Gilligan, at Madrid, dated March 19, 1713.*

"SIR,

"I HAVE communicated your letter of the 27th past to the Duke of Shrewsbury, as your injunction and my duty require.

B 2

I expect

before I received your letter. I see this court thinks the matter may be best adjusted at Madrid, and I believe so from the exorbitance of a petition of the Guinea Company to this King, to which I see no direct answer is made. I think the matter stands thus, that the King, as interested in the Company, can better recede in Spain, than give up what his subjects may judge their interest here:

I expect your answer to what I wrote to you the 6th of March, and repeat to you that I desire you will more particularly explain how the affair stands as to the two hundred thousand dollars, or five hundred thousand dollars, or a sum to be adjusted between these two, if this is to be paid by us, and if it be only instead of the remaining number of negroes not yet transported: likewise as to the effects of the French Guinea-Company, if they are to be purchased at a reasonable valuation, what that valuation may be deemed, and how distinct from the sum just now mentioned relating to the Negroes, and how it's to be understood as to the French sailing any more to the Spanish West-Indies, or an account of their assiento privileges; that by such distinct advices upon these heads, as you shall be pleased to give me, I may apply to the Ministry here, if occasion require, in order to aid your endeavours. I suppose you write the whole into England, from whence I am to be directed. I send you inclosed, the paragraph of a letter from Lord Bolingbroke to the Duke of Shrewsbury, and papers annexed, upon which I cannot say more, till I hear from you, but that I shall in the mean time endeavour upon the sense of them, and upon what you have writ to me, to know the opinion of the persons in this court, who are concerned in the affair of the Spanish trade. The Duke of Shrewsbury will give me his favour and intercession on this behalf, as his Grace does always in the noblest and greatest manner, as to every thing that is to the advantage of her Majesty's interest, and the good of our country. I am, Sir, your's, &c.

"M. PRIOR."

upon

upon Mr. Gilligan's answer, we shall know better *à quoi en être*.

In a letter which the Lords Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht wrote to your Lordship, of which likewise they sent us a copy, mention is made of the language of the treaty, I cannot be impertinent, that upon that subject I send you a *mémoire* * which I find among my papers of Ryswick.

I presume they will stipulate accordingly in this treaty ; as to the original instrument of the treaty of Breda, I may tell you we could never find it, and consequently the treaty of Ryswick, ratified as you have it in one of the offices, remains still in French. In the articles of the treaty you will always find what we call the short style used, to wit : *Inter Serenissimam & Potentissimam Principem Annam Magnæ Britanniae Reginam, &c.*

* “ *Mémoire.*

“ Nous soussignés Ministres Plénipotentiaires de sa Majesté Très Chrétienne déclarons, à la réquisition des Ministres Plénipotentiaires de sa Majesté Britannique, qui n'ont pas voulu arrêter la conclusion de l'affaire pressante, dont il s'agit à présent, que s'il se trouve que l'un des instrumens des traités qui ont été faits & signés à Breda & du depuis entre la France & la Grande Bretagne ne soit en François, nous en fournirons un autre en Latin avant la ratification de la convention, faite aujourd'hui à Utrecht le 14me Mars, 1713.”

This I receive from Mr. Torcy, it agrees with what I have amongst my papers of Ryswick.

Mr. PRIOR.

B 3

& Se.

*& Serenissimum & Potentissimum Principem
Ludovicum 14^m Regem Christianissimum, &c.*

In their preamble, they call themselves King of France and Navarre, and in our preamble we call ourselves Queen of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, according to the long style, as we used to express it.

By the Duke of Shrewsbury's leave and order, I go on to rectify a little mistake in the Lords Plenipotentiaries' letter to you, which I have cited. They say Monsieur Gaultier's plan is covertly mentioned in my Lord Duke of Shrewsbury's letter: no, my Lord; the plan which the Duke of Shrewsbury has at any time mentioned, is not Gaultier's plan, but the general plan at which they are working, of which they send the articles to Whitehall as they are adjusted, and of which we sometimes see an article, or part of one, as it is to be altered or agreed to here; and to this plan alone the Duke of Shrewsbury refers in his letter.

I am, my Lord, &c.

M. PRIOR.

From

*From Mr. Prior *.*

MATTHEW TO HENRY,

S. P. Dicit, optatque.

WHEN I wrote to your Lordship, and to Lord Treasurer, concerning my expences, and what I was to do at the entry, I likewise wrote on the subject to Lord Dartmouth, and have this answer:—"When
 " the Duke of Shrewsbury makes his en-
 " try, the Queen thinks fit you should appear
 " at it as a private gentleman; for I think
 " it is agreed, among all those who pretend
 " to be skilled in matters of ceremony, that
 " the commission of Plenipotentiary does not
 " give you a representing character."

Do me justice, my dear Lord; did I ever desire to be a lion in Arabia, any more than to be an Ambassador at Paris?—And could it be supposed that I should think I had a representing character, by my asking for a coach? As to a private gentleman, are there not of these animals of all sorts, from those who have six Flanders horses, to others who drive in a *vinegrette*? But I believe

* Private.—BOLINGBROKE.

you have concerted this matter already with Lord Treasurer, and will trouble you no more on this subject, than to set me right in her Majesty's opinion as to what I have asked, and to let you understand the validity of the answer. Adieu, my dear Lord. I have made all your compliments as you command, and am, entirely your's,

M. PRIOR.

From Mr. Prior.

MY LORD,

Sunday Night, Twelve.—March 26th, 1713.

LA VIGNE, who brings you this packet, brought the Duke d'Aumont's letter to the King of the 21st March, by which we just now hear that the Lord Keeper's illness is the cause of another prorogation. I suppose we shall have a courier from England in a day or two, with the same news. I cannot detain La Vigne, it being midnight; nor have any thing to add to the inclosed, but my wishes for the public safety: the Duke of Shrewsbury's packets are all made up, and I presume, if his Grace has any thing to add, he will order it to be given to La

Vigne, who goes from me to his Grace's hotel. I am, ever, &c.

M. PRIOR.

To Mr. Prior.

DEAR MATT,

Whitehall, March 26th, 1713.

THE answer whereof you sent me an extract, was very extraordinary indeed.

I desire you to believe I have not failed to represent your case, as becomes a sincere friend, but you must excuse me, if I do not give you a precise account of my success. In general, let me desire you to go on, and you will in the end, I dare say, have reason to be satisfied. Ask no more orders from hence; but as you have credit at Paris, use it to put yourself into that equipage which becomes the Queen's servant in such a station, and at such a time.

Adieu, I am, ever your slave,

BOLINGBROKE.

From

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Verfailles, April 3rd, 1713.

BY the inclosed *, which I sent this morning to Utrecht, your Lordship finds, that I have done my best endeavours to faci-

* *Copy of the Duke of Shrewsbury's letter to the Lords Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht.*

" MY LORDS,

" Versailles, April 3rd, 1713.

" I TAKE this opportunity of the French courier, to acknowledge your Excellencies' letter of the 25th and 26th March, and to acquaint you thereupon, that in discourse with Monsieur de Torcy, I have endeavoured to facilitate most of those points which you have been pleased to recommend to me; I am glad to find from that minister, that no considerable obstacle remains relating to the interests of the States; and that they, as well as Portugal, Savoy, and Prussia may be in readiness to sign with your Excellencies; as likewise that there is no farther dispute between the Emperor and France, as to the barrier of the Rhine; and as to preserving the Elector of Hanover's rank, this Court proposes an expedient, which is, that after the death of the present Elector Palatine, and his brother Prince Charles, at which time they suppose the elector of Bavaria is to become the first secular Elector, that branch of the family, which is to succeed the Elector Palatine, instead of preceding the Elector of Hanover, shall come after him, and have place only as the last Elector. As to the Elector of Bavaria's interest, I am apprehensive there will be more difficulty than your Excellencies foresaw; that Prince persisting to have those terms performed, which you already know her Majesty has directed should be proposed in his favour; as what he thinks more conducive to his interest, than the expedient which your Excellencies last mentioned. This is a matter in which, if the Emperor had opened his thoughts some months since, it would have been adjusted with more facility than it can now be; but as it is, in the term allowed for all the allies to come in, I will not doubt but that it may be accommodated. I am, my Lord, your Excellency's, &c.

" SHREWSBURY."

litate

litate here, what yet lies undecided in the general treaty; I hope, the expedient proposed for preserving the Elector of Hanover's rank will be to his Highness's satisfaction.

Nothing seems now unfinished, but what relates to the Emperor, which, as I intimated to you in my last, will hardly be accommodated immediately; the two great points, upon which his Imperial Majesty insists, are, that he may be discharged from the pressure of the treaty of Ilmersheim *, his Ministers plainly confessing, that he is unable to pay the arrears due upon it; and the other, that he may be still left in possession of all those countries which he at present possesses in Italy: these are points, in which I should be very glad to have her Majesty's peculiar direction, for they are such as come in at every turn, when any accommodation is offered in relation to the Emperor.

I must tell you, that this Court thinks his Imperial Majesty will be left too powerful in Italy; that he ought to restore those territories, contenting himself with his partage

* With the Electress of Bavaria, the Emperor received the whole rents and profits of Bavaria, and paid nothing of what he had stipulated to pay.

of Naples and Milan; but in this, as they are ready first to appear, they wish to be seconded by the Queen, taking it for granted, that it is as much her Majesty's, as their own interest, to restrain this too great strength in the same Prince; upon this, her Majesty will please to determine; and your Lordship will send me new orders, in what manner I may conduct myself.

I am, my Lord, your Lordship's, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

*To the Duke of Shrewsbury *.*

MY LORD,

Whitehall, March 28th, 1713, O.S.

HAVING read to her Majesty your Grace's letter of the 3rd of April, together with the copy of what you had writ the same day to the Plenipotentiaries, I am commanded to let your Grace know, that the Queen is hopeful, as you are, that the expedient concerning the Elector of Hanover's rank may be to his Highness's satisfaction.

It were much to be wished that this objection, as well as many others, had been sooner

* Public letter.

started;

started; the Queen would then have more time, and, I may presume to add, more strength, to negociate for her allies.

We did not indeed apprehend that the conditions on which Count Sinzendorf offered to sign the Emperor's peace, would have admitted of so much difficulty. What led us to think so was, his, the Count de Sinzendorff's, affirming that the infractions of the treaty of Ilmerheim, amounted to much less than has been represented, and that, particularly at Munich, the Elector of Bavaria would find nothing which belonged to him wanting, except a few pictures which were given to the Duke of Marlborough.

And secondly, though it might be reasonable to endeavour in the course of the negotiation to restrain, to some degree, the Imperial power in Italy. Yet that neither France nor we would look too scrupulously into that matter, nor retard the general peace by being over careful of those who had no merit on either side in the war.

But since the proposals of the German Ministers on those heads, have not been agreed to at the Court of France; and since your Grace desires her Majesty's particular directions

directions upon them, as points which are still to be disputed, and which will come in play at every turn of treaty relating to the Emperor; I do myself the honour to acquaint you with the Queen's sense, with her orders which I am directed to send to Utrecht, and which will serve as an instruction to your Grace, at the same time.

Her Majesty could have wished that the Emperor might have been able to sign when she does, and in order thereunto, that he might have been discharged from the demand of making good the treaty of Ilmersheim; but since the Elector of Bavaria insists, and France in his behalf, that her Majesty's expedient may take place, that the sovereignty of Luxemburg, under the condition imposed, may be the Elector's security, the Queen must be on this side; she cannot take part against what she herself offered, and the Emperor can have nothing to object; since this perhaps is the easiest way that could be thought of to satisfy an obligation, which the House of Austria brought on themselves, and which Great Britain had no share in creating.

The Queen cannot declare herself so absolutely and explicitly in the other case; she

2 knows

knows very well how much it is the common interest of Europe to preserve the liberty of Italy; and, she has a very compassionate sense of the hardships which those Princes endure, who have either old claims revived upon them, or who are by force kept out of their patrimony, in defiance, if I mistake not, of the Golden Bull, by virtue of which the Emperor cannot take to himself and family, such fiefs, as by death, forfeiture, or otherwise shall fall in to him; but then the Queen would hope that this pretence should not be taken to make it impossible for the Emperor to come in, and impose new hardships upon him. He asks that, in effect, Italy may be left to his discretion, when he asks to have the coast of Tuscany yielded to him, and to be left in possession of what he has, without any condition.

If this be not thought too dangerous a concession, let the terms of restitution be laid down at the same time as the general proposition is refused; your Grace knows that the Queen is desirous the King of Spain may retain the investiture of Sienna, and you easily see her view is rather to throw the succession of the Grand Duke into the House of Spain, than

than to leave it to be scrambled for by those of Austria and of Bourbon.

This might be made part of the bargain; and some reasonable composition, of which the Queen will not assume the determination, might be offered as to the other points in dispute; this would look like desiring to take care of Italy, and to conclude with the Emperor; but to say simply he shall keep his partage of Naples and Milan, without mentioning the coast of Tuscany, which is mentioned in her Majesty's speech, and without speaking definitively of the other articles, has an air of keeping this negociation open, for some other purpose than the security of Italy.

To conclude, the Queen, my Lord, will not delay, on this score, her treaty, and she hopes that Portugal, Savoy, and Holland will not delay theirs; but she hopes likewise that such instructions will be given to the Ministers of France, as may tend to bring these differences to a speedy issue, and leave the Emperor, as he has hitherto been, without excuse.

March 30th, 1713.

LAST night I received a letter from the Plenipotentiaries, by which I find they have
fixed

fixed to-morrow for signing the Queen's peace; we are sorry to find that, after the return of the French courier, there remained any difficulty in the treaties of Portugal and Holland; we are hopeful they will be got over, and indeed her Majesty will be very uneasy if they should hang by difficulties on the part of France, after so much has been done on the Queen's part to adjust them to common satisfaction. Monsieur d'Aumont's courier being to be dispatched this night, I close my letter to your Grace; the cabinet which sits this evening may perhaps give me occasion to write farther, in which case I will dispatch one of the Queen's messengers to-morrow. I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, March, 29th, 1712-13.

I HAVE received the honour of your Grace's dispatch of the 3d of April, N.S. wherein was a copy of your letter of the same date to her Majesty's Plenipotentiaries.

You have, indeed, done your part, my

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C

Lord,

Lord, in removing difficulties, and cutting off delays. We have had the good fortune likewise, to make an end of some, and to anticipate others from hence. Yet, how it happens I do not know, this Hydra, negotiation, shoots out new heads, and our labour runs in an eternal circle.

I have taken the liberty to write my thoughts very plainly to Utrecht, upon this subject. We are not only exposed to those accidents which your Grace is pleased to mention in yours of the 31st of March; but whilst the fury of those who oppose the peace, is far from abating, the patience of those who are for it grows tired, and the objection of making neither war nor peace increaseth upon us.

My Lord Treasurer writ to the Plenipotentiaries in a very pressing style*, and the Queen was so uneasy, that she once thought of letting them know her sense, by a letter under her own hand. I am willing to hope there will be no farther delay, as I am sure there can be no farther excuse, and that

* The Plenipotentiaries thought their power did not authorize them to sign the peace, unless *all* the allies were ready to sign at the same time.—But new orders were sent.

my Lords will sign at the arrival of the courier from the French Court, although he does not bring such an approbation of the Emperor's project, as they seemed to expect and hope for.

We wait with impatience for that happy hour when we shall go out of such a war as I heartily wish our children's children may never see. When the Parliament meets, I believe your Grace will hear that your friends will take the part of attacking*. The other side must engage on some point or other, as well to answer the expectation of their own people, as on account of their elections; and if they had not these reasons for doing so, their own heat and impetuosity would carry them to some attempt; since, therefore, an attack is to be, we had much better make it, than stand on the defensive. I hope we shall have a short and easy session, and that such measures will be taken as may secure the elections in every part of the kingdom†, and make the best use

* The attack was intended by the opposition; but the Ministers resolved to attack them, and upon those very points which they were to have argued upon.

† Parliaments were then triennial, but the next Ministry, then called Whigs, made it septennial.

of that peace which we have been so long struggling to obtain. I am, &c.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, April 1st, 1713.

I SAID in my last that the cabinet, which was to sit on Monday night, would, perhaps, give occasion of writing farther to your Grace on the same subject, and so it has proved.

I spent some time last night in dictating the minutes, at the other office, of a dispatch to your Grace. The letter drawn upon these minutes, was shown me to-day, and I am very much mistaken if it does not want a commentary. You will allow me, therefore, to state very shortly, her Majesty's sense, which is pretty near the same which I had the honour to communicate to you before.

If the Elector of Bavaria, and France in his behalf, refuse to give up all claim and satisfaction for the infractions of the treaty of Ilmersheim; and if they agree at the same time, to stand to the Queen's expedient concerning Luxemburg; her Majesty is so
far

far on their side, and my Lords the Ambassadors at Utrecht are directed to declare as much to all parties.

If any security could in the course of the negociation, have been procured to the Princes and States of Italy, against the exorbitant power of Austria, which they seem so much to apprehend, the Queen would have been glad of it; but to have the Emperor kept out of the peace, and this hindred from being general, for the sake of those who have no merit whatever to plead, her Majesty can no more approve than she can think such remote and speculative dangers ought to be set in competition with the imminent and real danger of a war still continuing on the Rhine. Her directions therefore are, and accordingly I write to Utrecht, that the French Ministers, and the King himself, should be earnestly dissuaded from keeping the war alive for the sake of other people, after the interests of France are settled: and her Majesty has so much contributed to the settlement of these, that she thinks herself the better entitled to press the Most Christian King to depart from the other.

We are now in hourly expectation of hearing from the Congress, and of receiving the instruments signed. I believe your Grace will take my word, when I promise to lose no time in dispatching the ratifications of them. I am, with the utmost respect, &c.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, April 1st, 1713.

I THOUGHT it better to give your Lordship the trouble of a letter, than barely to tell my opinion to Captain Powell, which I have done likewise.

We hope your Lordships have signed the Queen's treaties with France; but those with Spain are still behind, and indeed the Marquis de Monteleon cannot stir from hence, until his courier returns from Madrid, whom he every day expects.

The Emperor's peace is not likely to be soon adjusted, the ratifications of all the treaties are to be exchanged; the work of the Commissaries about trade in the Netherlands, is to be superintended; and I believe the ancient treaties with Spain, upon this head,

head, must be renewed with his Imperial Majesty ; besides several other things which do not at this moment occur to me, but which must be finished before your Lordships can leave Utrecht.

I draw this sketch only to show you that it is impossible your Lordship should be able yet a while to return home, as much as your services here may be wanted, and as much as your friends and servants may desire to see you. My lady will, therefore, have more time than that you seem to expect, to take the journey in.

I will see Captain Powell to-morrow, to give directions for the yatch, and your Lordship may be assured that nothing which I can do shall be omitted to forward her journey, and to make it easy to her ; but, by the way, I will not attribute her expedition to a curiosity of seeing Holland.

I am, my dear Lord, &c.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Paris, April 8th, 1713, N.S.

HAYWOOD arrived here late last night ; comes forward to you with the plan of

C 4

peace,

peace, signed in Spain, the assiento treaty, and an authentic copy of the law of the renunciations. As to the plan itself, I take it for granted that it is, in general, conformable to her Majesty's direction: in the little time I had to run it over, I could remark that through it, *la nation Angloise*, as to their privileges of trading, is often expressed; under which appellation I presume all her Majesty's subjects are comprehended: and if so, may not some other term, more extensive, be inserted in the stead of it? as likewise in the article relating to the Catalans, their war called a *rebellion*, may not some softer expression be found out, considering the circumstances in which these people acted?

I am glad to find by Lord Lexington's letter, that the assiento is finished in such a manner as he judges so advantageous to England; and that every point between Spain and Savoy is agreed as his Royal Highness can desire. Things being thus settled at Madrid, and in such forwardness at Utrecht, I hope no obstacle remains to the conclusion of the peace.

Lord Dartmouth will have told you, that
two

two days since I sent him a memorial, which I received of Monsieur du Casse, in behalf of the French Guinea-Company; it would be well if Mr. Gilligan, who is soon expected here, may be instructed in order to adjust that matter.

In a letter from Lord Dartmouth, of the 20th March, he says, that Lord Bolingbroke will, by the same post, inform me of the state of the negociation at Utrecht; you will excuse me, my Lord, if I say I have not received your letter, because you know it is with great satisfaction I always hear from you, as well as with great truth that I am, my Lord,

Your Lordship's, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

P. S. Mr. Prior says he wants mightily to hear from you; but I believe he wants more to hear from Lord Treasurer.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, April 4th, 1713.

YOU will easily imagine how very welcome my brother was, since he brought the
peace,

peace *, for which every friend to the Queen and country was under the most eager expectation.

The signing of the Dutch saves us a debate, and them a resolution, which would not perhaps have been very agreeable to them. I cannot express all I think of that indefatigable zeal and eminent sufficiency with which your Lordship has carried on a negociation which you first laid the foundation ; may you long live to enjoy the honours which are your due, and the blessings of a grateful people.

I am, &c.

* On the 11th of April, N.S. the British Plenipotentiaries, in the morning, informed Count Sinzendorf what they had stipulated for the Emperor and empire; that the treaty was to be open till the 1st of June, N.S.; that the King of France would not grant a cessation of arms and that they were going to sign the peace for Great Britain: they then went to the Ministers of the other allies, gave them the same intimation, and adjourning to the Lord Privy Seal's house, met the French Ministers there, and signed the peace, about two o'clock in the afternoon. The Ministers of Savoy signed next; those of Portugal signed at eight, and the Prussians at eleven. The Ministers of the States-General did not sign till three hours after, which time they employed in a fruitless endeavour to make alterations.

A Monsieur

A Monsieur le Marquis de Montéleon.

MONSIEUR,

Ce Mardi, Avril 7^{me}, 1713.

PLUS je considère le projet de traité, venu en dernier lieu de Madrid plus je trouve l'impossibilité à passer certains articles qui sont contenus là-dedans. Votre Excellence me servira de témoin, que je cherche à applanir toutes les difficultés qui se forment, bien loin de vouloir en créer aucunes. Si donc je trouve de l'impossibilité à passer ces articles, jugez, s'il vous plaît, par-là, du sentiment des autres Ministres.

L'ouverture du Parlement se doit faire Jeudi prochain, nous n'avons, par conséquent, point de tems à perdre, car je serai très fâché d'entendre parler la Reine de la paix avec la France comme faite, & du traité comme ratifié, pendant qu'elle sera obligée de dire que la négociation avec l'Espagne est encore ouverte.

Il sera, dans ce cas, impossible de répondre de certains contretems fâcheux qui pourront arriver. Demain à dix heures précisément du matin, je me rendrai au Bureau; Monsieur Moore s'y trouvera; peut-être pourrons nous trouver des expédiens & des tempéramens, sur
les

les points disputés, avec votre assistance. Comme Monsieur Moore ne parle point le François, je me remets à votre Excellence, si vous ne voudriez pas mener avec vous Don Patricio *. Je suis, avec toute la considération du monde, Monsieur, de votre Excellence, &c.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, April 8th, 1713.

YOU will find, by my other letter, how great a mistake has been made at Utrecht; the method proposed to rectify it, can admit of no reasonable objection, and yet whether the French will not insist to keep an advantage which they have got, is, I believe, to be apprehended.

In this case, I may say to your Grace that we shall lose great part of the reputation, which from the treaty of commerce might have been otherwise expected. Several of

* Don Patricio Lawless (the Editor believes by birth an Irishman) Commissary, on the business of trade, from Spain. It was rumoured, in the year following, that he had been Envoy from the Pretender to Madrid: and a vote in the House of Lords, levelled at him, induced him to leave Great Britain.

our plantation-traders, spirited up by Heathcote *, and other disaffected people, presented petitions some time ago, concerning the excessive duties on sugars ; they were answered by being checked ; and it was insinuated that though refined sugar and sugar candy were excepted, which affect the trade of Holland, yet sugars in general were not excepted, and therefore the British commerce had nothing to fear.

The original memorial which I received from Monsieur de Torcy, in 1711, concerning the specification of the excepted species, I put into the Plenipotentiaries' hands long ago, and never imagined they would depart from the terms of it, in settling the treaty ; perhaps I had done better to have kept it in my own hands, and to have inserted the contents of it in my letter, at the time when my Lords should have used it.

The treaties of peace and commerce were read last night in the Great Council, and ordered to be ratified ; which I hope will be done this evening, though the instruments are very long, and the work tedious. Your

* Sir Gilbert Heathcote, Director of the Bank and East India Company, and in the last Parliament member for the City of London.

Grace

Grace will be curious to know who spoke on that occasion; and they were, the Treasurer of the Household *, and the Lord Chief Justice Parker. These two wanted more time, it seems, to judge of the conditions of the peace. The first of them had warmed himself, without any provocation, to a degree of heat not becoming that place. I thought this proceeding as much resented as possible, and that resentment more shown than usually the passions of some people are. The Lord Keeper took the oaths of Chancellor, and so the farce of the night ended. To-morrow the session opens, and will, I hope, be short.

I am ever, &c.

To the Earl of Strafford.

Whitehall, April 11th, 1713.

I HAVE, my Lord, your Excellency's private letters of the 13th, 14th, and 18th before me, for all which I most heartily thank you, and must complain a little, that you say you are sensible your private letters have always been tedious. I have always read them with pleasure, and if, at any time, I have not been

* Lord Cholmondeley.

exactly punctual in my answers, your Excellency knows full well how just an excuse I have to plead. I sincerely wish it was in my power to serve Monsieur Marschalch *. Certain it is that he would be of more use to his master at our Court, than perhaps any other Minister; since we should concert with him in another manner, than it can be expected we should do with Bonet, who is a very little fellow, or with another whom we may have no knowledge of.

I have received a letter from Monsieur Marschalch, and intend to answer him next post, but indeed, as to the subsidies, I can give him no great hopes.

I am glad your Lordship opened your self so far to Sinzendorf, it is pity that any spark of war should remain alive, when so little is wanting to quench it.

Your Excellency will have heard by this time that the Duke of Shrewsbury has brought the French Court up to that which I wish they had sooner complied with; I am hopeful that this disposition on the part of France, cultivated by your good offices, will

* The Prussian Minister, at the Hague.

bring the Imperial Ministers to an accommodation.

It is proper I should give your Excellency a hint, which you will please to give to my Lord Bishop likewise, and that is, that the Duke d'Offuna * is not in the secret of his Court; his quality is to give splendor to the embassy, but Montéleon is to do the business. You will hear, perhaps, very odd and extravagant discourses from him, which your Excellency will please to receive civilly, but to lay no weight upon; Montéleon will soon be on your side, with him you will do your work, and by him you will lead the other.

What you said, some time since, to Prince Kurakin, was exactly right; and I am sure I spoke to the Danish Minister (for the Muscovite Envoyé is a cripple, and I never see him) in terms rather more strong than those which you used. But the misrepresentations, of what is spoke to these Gentlemen, happen every day, and I have frequently seen myself quoted for long speeches, one syllable of which never came out of my mouth. I think your Excellency may reasonably content

* Appointed Ambassador from Spain to the Congress.

yourself with ridiculing the lie, and take no farther trouble about it.

I have already done Count Passionei what service I was able, on your Excellency's recommendation; I will this very day speak again to the Marquis de Montéleon, and by Tuesday will write to the Count myself.

No man living can be with greater truth and zeal, my Lord, your Excellency's most faithful, &c.

A Monsieur le Marquis de Montéleon.

MONSIEUR,

De Whitehall, ce 11^{me} Avril, 1713.

JE ne doute point que vous ne me fassiez la justice de croire que j'ai reçu l'agréable nouvelle de l'heureuse arrivée de la flotte de Mexique, avec toute la joie que doit ressentir un homme convaincu, comme je le suis, que la bonne & la mauvaise fortune de l'Espagne sont également la bonne & la mauvaise fortune de la Grande Bretagne.

Votre Excellence me permettra de me servir de cette occasion pour lui dire, qu'il est absolument nécessaire que nous trouvions

quelque tempérament sur l'article des Fueros des Catalans, & sur celui de la religion dans l'Isle de Minorque & à Gibraltar. Il seroit en vérité, Monsieur, trop dur, de voir une négociation, conduite jusques ici si heureusement, accrochée par des bagatelles, j'ose appeller ainsi tout ce qui arrête la conclusion de la paix entre nos deux nations.

Je vous dirai en confiance, que j'ai entretenu la Reine sur ces points par deux reprises, & que je l'ai trouvé, comme je m'y étois attendu, extrêmement roide, & sur l'un & sur l'autre. Elle croit que s'il s'agissoit de lui céder des places qu'elle n'avoit pas conquises, & dont elle n'étoit pas dans la possession actuelle, Messieurs de l'Inquisition pourroient prétendre, selon les coutumes d'Espagne, d'avoir sur cette occasion voix en chapitre. Mais il faut présentement qu'on envisage cette affaire d'un autre œil. Si le Roi d'Espagne fait une cession formelle de l'Isle de Minorque & de Gibraltar à la Reine, les biens, les honneurs, & les privilèges, tant ecclésiastiques que civiles, comme aussi la religion Catholique, seront conservés par une stipulation formelle, à tous les habitants des dits lieux. Si le Roi insiste sur des conditions

suplen 5

conditions, qui obligeront la Reine de ne pas accepter la cession susdite, il n'y aura aucune stipulation en faveur ou des ecclésiastiques ou des laïques, & Messieurs de l'Inquisition prendront la peine de considérer, s'il leur convient de laisser les intérêts de leur religion à la discrétion de ceux qu'on appelle hérétiques.

La Reine entre, Monsieur, dans la considération de tous les égards, q'un Roi Catholique doit avoir pour les représentations de la part de l'Inquisition, & sa Majesté s'attend que le Roi votre maître entrera pareillement dans la considération de tous les égards qu'un Roi ou une Reine de la Grande Bretagne, doit avoir pour les sentimens de son Parlement. En un mot, je concevrois de l'espérance de pouvoir faire passer l'article qui regarde les Catalans, par le moyen de l'expédient dont nous sommes convenus, vous & moi, pourvu que celui de la religion ne fût plus disputé, mais que vous vous contentassiez de la stipulation générale à cet égard, qui se trouve dans les minutes envoyées à Madrid, & plus ample-ment dans le projet de traité que j'ai dressé en Latin, & que nous avons parcouru en-

semble. Je demandrois l'excuse de votre Excellence de vous avoir écrit une aussi longue lettre, si je ne savois combien il est important de finir sans délai, & combien il est impossible d'accommoder les différens, qui subsistent encore, sur aucun autre pied que celui que je viens de vous insinuer.

Je suis, très parfaitement, de votre Excellence, le très humble, &c.

A Monsieur Marschalch.

De Whitehall, ce 14^{me} Avril, 1713.

EN même-tems que je vous rends grâces, Monsieur, de l'honneur de votre lettre du 18^{me} de ce mois, N.S. vous voulez bien que je me réjouisse aussi avec vous de l'heureuse conclusion d'une paix, si long-tems disputée & si vivement opposée.

La sage conduite du Roi votre maître, qui se fait, avec tant de raison, gloire de marcher sur les traces de son auguste père, n'a pas peu contribué à l'accomplissement de ce grand ouvrage. Vous jugerez, Monsieur, aisément de la satisfaction avec laquelle la Reine a vu concourir sa Majesté Prussienne dans la signature de la paix, par le déplai-
sir

fir que vous savez qu'elle a ressenti lorsque les troupes du feu Roi se sont séparées des siennes, & que la bonne correspondance entre nos deux Cours a paru recevoir quelque atteinte.

Je ne suis pas véritablement en état de pouvoir vous rien promettre sur l'article des subsides ; ce qu'il y a de certain, c'est, que je ne connois personne qui soit si capable que vous de conduire heureusement les affaires de votre maître, par-tout où vous serez employé, & particulièrement à notre cour, où vous êtes connu, &, par conséquent, estimé.

Je suis, &c.

A Monsieur le Comte de Passionei.

De Whitehall, ce 14^{me} Avril, 1713.

J'AI reçu les deux lettres que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire, & je vous prie d'être persuadé, que si mon pouvoir égaloit l'inclination que je sens de vous rendre service, vous auriez bientôt raison d'être content sur l'article dont il s'agit.

Je n'ai pas manqué, sur les premières recommandations de Monsieur le Comte de

Strafford, de presser le Marquis de Montéleon, lequel j'ai trouvé dans des dispositions raisonnables. J'ai depuis cela renouvelé, à plusieurs reprises, mes instances auprès de ce Ministre, & par le courier, qui doit demain partir pour l'Espagne, je ferai en sorte qu'il écrira encore à sa cour.

Je vous supplie, Monsieur, d'être persuadé qu'on ne peut être plus véritablement que je le suis, &c.

A Monsieur Mesnager.

De Whitehall, ce 14^{me} Avril, 1713.

VOUS ne me trouverez pas, Monsieur, j'espère, importun, si je me donne l'honneur de vous féliciter, sur ce que vous venez de donner la dernière main à ce grand ouvrage, dont vous avez jeté les premiers fondemens.

La bonne correspondance entre nos deux nations vient d'être rétablie par la paix, tâchons de l'augmenter, & de l'affermir par toutes sortes de moyens.

Parmi les plaisirs que je sens de voir la fin de cette négociation, j'ai celui d'avoir eu, pendant son cours, l'occasion de vous connaître.

noître. Je vous demande quelque part de
votre souvenir, & je vous assure de mon côté
que je ferai tout ma vie, très parfaitement,
Monfieur, &c.

De Monfieur de Torcy.

A Versailles, le 17^{me} Avril, 1713.

OUBLIONS, my Lord, toutes nos peines,
puisque vos foins ont réuffi, & que les traités
de paix & de commerce fe font enfin fignés.
C'est en vérité, avec une joie bien fincère &
bien véritable que je vous félicite de ce suc-
cès. Le retardement impatientoit, mais je ne
pouvois croire qu'une affaire dont vous vous
étiez mêlé, fut en danger de ne pas réuffir,
je m'imaginois encore moins de pouvoir vous
regarder jamais comme ennemi. Enfin, toute
inquiétude & toute crainte font cefées, & je
vous en fait encore mon compliment.

Le Roi écrit aujourd'hui à la Reine, &
j'envoye la lettre à Monfieur le Duc d'Au-
mont ; il a ordre auffi, my Lord, de vous té-
moigner, de la part de fa Majesté, ce qu'elle
penfe fur votre fujet. Ce ne fera jamais au-
deffus de ce que vous méritez, & de l'idée que
j'en conferverai précieufement toute ma vie.

La Reine fera contente sur les Galériens *,
& je ne doute pas que le Roi ne le soit aussi
sur

* Lettre de Monsieur de Torcy, au Sieur Gaultier, reçue 23^{me}
Mars, 1713.

“ Le 26^{me} Mars, 1713.

“ JE puis vous informer présentement des intentions du Roi, sur l'article des Galériens. Vous ne vous êtes pas trompé ne jugeant de l'extrême répugnance, que sa Majesté auroit d'entrer en aucune négociation sur une pareille matière; elle est cependant si portée à faire plaisir à la Reine, que j'ai vu en cette occasion, ce que je n'aurois jamais osé attendre. Mais avant que de vous dire ce que le Roi veut bien faire, il faut vous expliquer que la plus grande partie de ceux qui se donnent pour les martyrs de la religion Protestante réformée, & qui veulent faire croire qu'ils n'ont été conduits aux galères que pour cet unique sujet, y sont effectivement pour avoir voulu exciter des séditions dans les provinces, pour des assemblées tumultueuses, ou pour d'autres chefs de contraventions aux ordonnances & aux déclarations du Roi. Ce n'est donc pas leur zèle prétendu, mais leur désobéissance qui a été la cause de leur malheur, & l'indulgence en ces occasions peut avoir d'étranges suites. Le Roi veut bien cependant, à la demande & à la considération de la Reine, accorder la liberté à ceux qui se trouveront dans ce cas, comptant aussi, suivant ce que vous m'écrivez de la part de my Lord Trésorier, que la Reine fera dresser l'article 14 du traité qui regarde les immeubles, conformément à ce que le Roi a demandé, & à ce qui a été réglé par le traité de Breda, en semblable occasion. Cet accord ainsi fait, il ne faut pas qu'il paroisse comme une condition du traité, car ce seroit ouvrir la porte aux demandes, que d'autres puissances voudroient peut-être faire, en faveur des religionnaires, & que sa Majesté ne veut pas admettre, pour quelque considération que ce puisse être. Mais sur la parole que je donne à my Lord Trésorier, que j'espère qu'il voudra bien recevoir comme bonne; il faut qu'il fasse envoyer l'ordre à Monsieur le Duc de Shrewsbury, de déclarer ici que la Reine passera l'article des immeubles comme le Roi l'a souhaité. Il est même nécessaire qu'on lui envoie l'article tout dressé, ou tout au moins, qu'on lui instruisse des clauses qu'il doit accepter.

“ Il faut en même-tems lui donner ordre, de demander à sa Majesté, de la part de sa Majesté Britannique, la liberté d'une partie des Galériens, comme vous me l'avez marqué;
car

sur les immobilia. La paix se fait de trop bon grâce pour craindre que les suites ne soient pas de la même parure.

Monfieur le Duc de Richmond fera le maître de venir ici, quand il lui plaira, mais empêchez, my Lord, qu'il ne vienne ici des personnes auffi dangereufes que Madame la Ducheffe de Richmond & Madame fa fille ; laif-

car il feroit impoffible d'accorder cette liberté généralement à tous ; il faut auffi que ceux qu'on renverra fortent aufsitôt du Royaume & paffent dans les pays étrangers.

“ Souvenez-vous bien, fur toutes chofes, que cette liberté, que le Roi leur accordera, ne doit pas être une condition du traité, mais une pure grâce que le Roi leur fera à la confidération de la Reine de la Grande Bretagne.

“ En même-tems qu'elle donnera les ordres fur ce fujet à Monfieur le Duc de Shrewsbury, il fera néceffaire qu'elle en faffe parler à Monfieur le Duc d'Aumont. Vous m'avez renvoyé La Vigne fans lui en rien dire, & je fuis perfuadé qu'il en fera fâché, il aura même raifon de l'être & de croire qu'on veut négocier indépendamment de lui. Comme vous aurez peut-être pris des mefures pour vous tirer de cet embarras, & qu'il ne faut pas les déranger, je dirai à La Vigne de ne pas entrer à Londres comme courier, & de vous aller trouver fans fe faire voir aux gens de Monfieur le Duc d'Aumont. Je ne lui écris pas même par cette voie. Je compte de renvoyer dans trois ou quatre jours un de fes couriers arrivé ce matin, avec la fâcheufe nouvelle de la prolongation du parlement. Ces rétarde mens donnent lieu à beaucoup de mauvais discours, mais ce qui me fâche encore d'avantage eft la lenteur des Plénipotentiaires de la Grande Bretagne à Utrecht, & les difficultés qu'ils font tout de nouveau fur les articles déjà réglés, entre autres ce qui regard la restitution du Haut Palatinat, & le premier rang dans le Collége Electoral, à l'Elefteur de Bavière, après la mort du Palatin & du Prince Charles, article dont je fuis convenu à Fontainbleau avec my Lord Bolingbroke, & qu'il m'a laiffé pas écrit.

“ En vérité il faut que my Lord Tréforier ne fouffre pas davantage ces retardments, après tout ce que le Roi a fait pour avancer la paix.”

fez.

sez-nous fidelles à l'Eglise Anglicane, & comptez que le ministère & la philosophie sont de foibles armes pour résister à de certaines séductions.

Vous n'oseriez contester cette vérité, vous qui êtes Ministre, & que j'ai trouvé beaucoup plus philosophe que je ne l'ai jamais été. Il est vrai que vous avez augmenté le goût que j'avois de le devenir, mais il me faudroit encore quelques-unes de vos leçons, & j'en profiterois pour l'envie que j'ai de vous plaire, & de vous marquer, my Lord, qu'on ne peut être avec un attachement plus sincère,

Monfieur, votre, &c.

DE TORCY.

Comme je crois l'Abbé Gaultier parti, je prie Matthieu de mettre une lettre dans son paquet.

De Monsieur de Torcy.*

A Versailles, le 17^{me} Avril, 1713.

J'AI reçu Monfieur, par Monfieur le Baron de Walef, la lettre que vous m'avez fait

* Received by Baron Walef.

J'honneur

l'honneur de m'écrire le 16me Décembre,
V.S.

La recommandation que vous lui donnez, Monsieur, étoit une raison bien forte pour m'obliger à le servir en tout ce qui pouvoit dépendre de moi; mais vous avez contribué vous-même à détruire ce que vous vouliez faire pour lui, en travaillant, aussi utilement que vous avez fait, à la paix qui vient de se conclure.

Le Roi va songer à réformer des troupes, plutôt que d'en augmenter le nombre, & par conséquent il est impossible de faire entrer Monsieur le Baron de Walef au service de sa Majesté, nonobstant les bons témoignages que vous lui rendez *.

J'ai fait ce que j'ai pu pour engager l'Electeur de Bavière à le prendre à son service, mais les dispositions qu'il a faites ne le lui ont pas permis. Si je n'ai pas réussi, Monsieur, je vous supplie de croire, que je n'en ai pas moins d'envie de vous plaire, & de vous marquer en toutes occasions qu'on ne peut être plus véritablement & plus parfaitement que je suis,

Monsieur, votre, &c.

DE TORCY.

* Her Majesty gave him a letter for 500l. upon the Irish establishment, on his return to this country.

A Monsieur de Torcy.

De Whitehall, ce 15^{me} Avril, 1713.

J'AI déjà oublié, Monsieur, les peines que j'ai prises, & qui auroient été beaucoup plus grandes, si vous ne m'aviez, pendant tout le cours de cette négociation, protégé par votre droiture, & instruit par vos lumières.

Mais je n'oublierai jamais le plaisir & l'avantage desquels je suis redéevables aux longueurs & aux difficultés de notre grand ouvrage, le plaisir de vous avoir vu, & l'avantage de pouvoir copier sur votre exemple. Je vous félicite, Monsieur, du fond de mon cœur du succès du traité, & je ne doute point que vos Whigs ne soient présentement revenus de leurs préjugés ; pour les nôtres, ils sont incurables.

Monsieur le Duc d'Aumont m'a fait part de l'honneur dont le Roi a bien voulu me combler, en daignant regarder favorablement les services que j'ai tâché de rendre. Oserois-je, Monsieur, assurer sa Majesté de la parfaite reconnoissance dont je suis pénétré, & du profond respect avec lequel je serai toujours dévoué à son service ?

Comme les Ambassadeurs de la Reine, qui sont au Congrès, ne m'ont rien mandé depuis quelque

quelque tems, sur les intérêts du Duc de St. Pierre, je leur écris de nouveau sur ce sujet, par ordre de sa Majesté ; je les exhorte à exercer tout leur zèle, & à déployer tout leur savoir-faire dans cette occasion, & je les fais sentir qu'ils doivent s'attendre avoir la Reine très mécontente de leur conduite, s'ils agissent, sous quelque prétexte que ce soit, autrement.

Monfieur de Richmond se prépare à partir, mais la Duchesse & sa fille resteront ici, puisque vous craignez leurs séductions. En France la beauté peut être dangereuse, dans un climat aussi pésant, & parmi un peuple aussi phlégmatique que le nôtre, elle est nécessaire.

Je ne me suis jamais piqué d'être grand philosophe, mais je vous avoue que je suis tenté d'avoir quelque bonne opinion de moi-même, quand je réfléchis sur l'amitié dont vous m'honorez, sur l'estime très parfaite que je sens pour votre mérite, & sur l'attachement inviolable avec lequel je suis, &c.

B.

A Mon-

*A Monsieur de Torcy.*Ce 18^{me} Avril, 1713.

COMME l'Abbé Gaultier n'est pas encore parti, je le chargerai d'une seconde lettre, pour vous remercier, Monsieur, de l'attention que vous avez donné aux représentations de Monsieur le Duc de Shrewsbury, au sujet de la déclaration, qu'il a demandé sur les exceptions contenues dans l'article 9^{me} du traité de commerce. C'est une nouvelle preuve de la bonne foi, qui a régnée pendant tout le cours de cette négociation, & qui est trop bien établie, pour ne pas subsister après la paix.

J'ai entendu avec beaucoup de plaisir la nouvelle grâce que le Roi vient de faire à l'Abbé Gaultier. En vérité, Monsieur, sa conduite a mérité cette distinction : on ne peut pas servir le maître avec plus de zèle que lui, & j'ose avancer que la connoissance qu'il a de ce pays, aussi-bien que la confiance que ceux qui sont dans les affaires ont en lui, le mettent en état d'être fort utile, dans toutes les occasions, où il s'agira de négocier chez nous pour le service du Roi *.

Le

* Pending this negociation, the French Ministers intended to appoint a person of greater consequence, and of a higher rank.

Le Marquis de Montéleon se prépare pour passer en Hollande. Je crois qu'il est content de nous, puisqu'il a trouvé assez de facilité dans les choses essentielles. Je vous avoue, Monsieur, que nous n'en avons pas trouvé de même, dans de certains points, qui ne font d'aucune conséquence au Roi Catholique, & qui ne laissent pas d'être importans à la Reine, par rapport aux engagements qu'elle a pris, à la conjoncture du tems & à la constitution de notre Gouvernement.

Je me trompe fort si le Marquis de Montéleon ne pense pas sur ce sujet tout comme moi, je suis, Monsieur, votre, &c.

B.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Paris, April 11th, 1713, N.S.

I VERY lately received the honour of a letter from your Lordship, of the 20th, O.S. with her Majesty's commands to countenance the pretensions of the Chevalier d'Aubigny. I informed myself of that gentleman, in what I rank in life, to supersede Gaultier; but the latter had given so much satisfaction to the British Minister, and had conducted himself with such propriety, that Torcy was entreated to continue him.

could

could be useful to him at this Court, and understand from him, he pretends to an *Abaye*; I trouble your Lordship with this letter, in order to be informed, whether it be her Majesty's pleasure, I should make use of her name to the Ministers here upon this occasion? in which case, I make no question but the gentleman will be successful, and conclude her Majesty is well informed of his character. The gentleman is entirely a stranger to me; I shall wait your answer, and govern myself according to the orders I receive in it.

I am, my Lord, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

I came from Versailles this morning, when there was little hope of the Duke d'Alenzon's life.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Verfailles, April 18th, 1713, N.S.

I AM to acknowledge the honour of a letter from you, begun the 28th, and ended the 30th of March. I am of your Lordship's opinion, that in case some points, yet undecided, had been sooner started, they might with more ease have been accommodated;

modated ; as to the Elector of Bavaria's interest, the infractions of the treaty of Ilmersheim do not only relate to the furniture and other goods at Munich *, but to the annual revenue to be paid for the support of the Electress and her family, as your Lordship will see more particularly by the treaty itself.

And as to the affairs of Italy, I am glad to tell you, that I found this Court in such a disposition, as I hope is agreeable to her Majesty's intentions ; I have writ more fully upon this subject to the Earl of Dartmouth, but your Lordship will know by this inclosed paper †, (which I have likewise sent to him) the result of what has passed be-

* The capital of Bavaria.

† *Proposition faite de la part de Messieurs les Plénipotentiaires de France, à Utrecht.*

“ Les états & places d'Italie qui ne dépendent point du royaume de Naples, ni du duché de Milan, seront remis à ceux à qui ils appartiennent légitimement.”

Avec Monsieur de Torcy, Avril 5-16, 1713.

“ Les points qui regardent Mantua, Mirandole, Castillone, Comachio, &c. ne doivent pas retarder la conclusion de la paix, entre la maison d'Autriche & la France ; mais après la signature du traité on conviendra d'une ville en Italie, où des Plénipotentiaires qui seront nommés pour cet effet, tant de la part de sa Majesté Impériale, que de celle des autres parties intéressées, se rendront, & dans telle ville ils discuteront & conviendront de ce qui pourra appartenir à chacun.

“ Les quatre places sur les côtes de la Toscane, sont censées d'appartenir à la maison d'Autriche.”

tween Monsieur de Torcy and myself on this head; the reflection you will make upon it, is, that this Court has consented to all you desired, and seems very far from affecting any delay in concluding the peace with the Emperor.

Monsieur Gasper d'Aubigny, signifying to me, that he was contented I should recommend him in general terms to this Court, I have done so, as well by letter as by discourse with Monsieur de Torcy; but I must own to you, I was a little embarrassed to know what I should say in his favour, as from her Majesty, that ought to engage the King to take care of him.

When Mr. Arbuthnot, who is now at Rouen, comes hither, I will endeavour to render Mr. Churchill all the service I can.

Having nothing farther in charge from your Lordship, I have only to add, that I congratulate you upon the peace, which is, I confess, as general as I could have expected it, unless it had consisted with her Majesty's affairs, to have attended the Emperor's resolutions some time longer; and as it is, I am glad to find his difficulties so far removed, as may engage him to come in
upon

upon good terms within the time prescribed.
I am, my Lord, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Verfailles, April 24th, 1713, N.S.

AS soon as I had received your letter, of the 8th instant, O.S. I went to Versailles; and upon showing Monsieur de Torcy the paper of the 18th November, 1711, as explanatory to the Latin expressions in the 9th article of commerce, relating to the species, he laid that whole affair this morning before the King in Council; and upon it his Majesty has consented, that the article shall be understood and explained according to the paper you sent, and in the very terms*:
and

* “ *Declaration Act concerning the four species agreed to by his Most Christian Majesty, April 24th, 1713, N.S.*

“ Notum sit omnibus, quod cum in articulo nono tractatus navigationis & commerciorum inter Serenissimam Reginam Magnæ Britanniae, & Serenissimum Regem Christianissimum, per Majestatum suarum Legatos Extraordinarios & Plenipotentiarios, conclusi; quædam mercimonia, viz. lanificia, saccharum, pisces saliti, et quæ ex cætis proveniunt, verbis generalibus ex tariffæ die 18 mensis Septembris, anni 1664, factæ regulâ excipiuntur, commissariorum postea discussioni remittenda. Quo igitur omnis error & dubitatio evitentur, quæ ex terminis adeò generalibus forsitan oriri possint, certiusque constet de quibus speciatim mercimoniis deliberatio inter prædictos com-

and Monsieur de Torcy will this evening send orders to Utrecht, that their Plenipotentiaries may sign it with ours, in the manner you desire. I likewise, just now, dispatch a messenger to our Lords at Utrecht, with the like advice. I cannot but observe

missarios habenda est; nos infra scripti Legati Extraordinarii et Plenipotentiarii hisce declaravimus et declaramus mercimorum memoratorum exceptionem intelligendam esse secundum specificationem uberius factam in scripto quodam 18 die Novembris, anni 1711 dato, et in Magnam Britanniam ab aulâ prædicti Regis Christianissimi tum temporis transmissio cuius tenor sequitur:

“ Restrictions qu’il est nécessaire d’apporter en accordant le tarif de 1664, aux Hollandois.

“ 1. La Baleine coupée & apprêtée, les fanons & les huiles de Baleine, payeront à toutes les entrées du royaume les droits portés par le tarif du 7me Décembre, 1699.

“ 2. Les draps, ratines, & serges, seront sujets aux mêmes droits du tarif du 7me Décembre, 1699; & pour en faciliter le commerce, il sera permis de les faire entrer par St. Valery sur Somme, par Rouen, & par Bourdeaux (1), où ces étoffes seront sujettes à la visite, de la même manière que celles qui se fabriquent dans le royaume.

“ 3. Les Hollandois ne pourront apporter dans le royaume, que le poisson salé en baril, & il sera levé à toutes les entrées du royaume, pays, terres, de l’obéissance du Roi, même des ports francs, les droits d’abord & de consommation, ordonnés avant le tarif de 1664, & en outre 40 livres par leth, composé de douze barils, pesant 300lb. chacun pour le droit d’entrée, laquelle entrée ne sera permise que par St. Valery sur Somme, Rouen, Nantes, Libourne, & Bourdeaux, & demeurera interdite par les autres havres ou ports tant de la Mer Océane, que de la Méditerranée.

“ 4. Le sucre raffiné en pain ou en poudre: candis, blanc, & brun, payera les droits portés par le tarif du 7me Décembre, 1699.

“ Le 18me Novembre, 1711.”

“ In quorum fidem,” &c.

(1) “ N. Que l’entrée de ces marchandises n’étoit permise que par Calais & St. Valery sur Somme.”

to you, that this Court agreed the thing in the fairest and openest manner possible.

As to the acts of cession, Monsieur de Torcy will likewise give the necessary directions, that their Plenipotentiaries shall be furnished with them ; but the ratification of their treaty with her Majesty is already dispatched to Utrecht.

Our last letters from Madrid say, that Mr. Gilligan and Lord Lexington himself are ill. When Mr. Gilligan comes hither, I will hasten him away as fast as I can ; except you may judge his stay here, in regulating the assiento affair, more necessary ; in which case I desire your directions : but if he comes before I hear from you, I will dispatch him to you.

The Swedish Minister gave me this paper for news ; it seems not much of a piece with what was printed in our Gazette. By his discourse with me, I perceive he is apprehensive that we in England are of late grown very cool in our disposition towards saving his master ; I could only answer him in general terms, not knowing particularly what is intended in relation to the Northern interest.

The 1st of June will be here so soon, and you have so many other things in the mean time to think of, that I believe it proper to remind you, that we should immediately endeavour to remove any obstacle that may yet remain to the Emperor's coming in. The Marshals Harcourt and Bezons have orders to march towards Germany; and the minute after the expiration of the term, the French will, as I am assured, begin to demolish Brisac and Fort Kehl: the effect of all this is, that I think it for every body's interest that the peace be now general, to which, after the time once elapsed, many hindrances, yet unforeseen, will unavoidably arise.

I have not failed very frequently to solicit Monsieur de Torcy in behalf of the Duchess Hamilton's affairs: I find the lawyers here make some objections to that claim, of which I have this morning acquainted Lord Selkirk; I hope he will be able to refute them; and in the whole he shall have my best assistance.

I am, my Lord, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

From

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Versailles, April 24th, 1713. N.S.

I AM glad to have had so good success in setting right the difficulties, which you apprehended might have risen, in reference to the ninth article of commerce, as I wrote in my other letter: I must own to your Lordship, that in every thing relating to her Majesty, this Court has hitherto acted with as much fairness as could be expected; which I take as a just argument that we are obliged to use them in the like manner; I have not yet heard from Lord Treasurer, so that I have been able to say nothing to these Ministers concerning the *bona immobilia*, which, I conclude, they who you know are so punctual, do a little wonder at. I desire you would put her Majesty and the Lord Treasurer in mind of this affair; since in it, I have reason to believe, this Court expects a good deal of candour and generosity on her Majesty's part; and the rather because they think that expectation grounded upon a national justice.

I find Monsieur de Torcy and his family,

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are by every post from Utrecht more alarmed, that the Duke de St. Pierre's interest is not effectually sustained there; they would own it as a great obligation, that her Majesty would be pleased to repeat her orders to her Plenipotentiaries to that effect; your Lordship knows, as well as I, that Monsieur de Torcy's behaviour towards our nation, may justly entitle his relations to her Majesty's protection.

I am glad to hear of my Lord Chancellor's promotion * and more so of his recovery, and good state of health. Count Maffei, I hear, goes into England, to thank her Majesty for Sicily, in his master's name; if the Queen returns the compliment, may not Mr. Prior make such an excursion from hence, and be here again soon enough to receive your orders? I think it is what he would like; I know I ought in form to propose this to the other office, therefore pray let me not be named. I am, my Lord, your Lordship's, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

* Sir Simon Harcourt, Knt.; made Lord Keeper, October 9th, 1710; created Lord Harcourt, September 3rd, 1712; made Lord Chancellor, April 7th, 1713.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

April 19, 1713.

HAVING been every day in expectation of Abbé Gaultier's departure for some time, I am now to acknowledge your Grace's letters of the 18th and 24th together.

On the head of infraction of the treaty of Ilmerheim, nothing more needs be said from hence, at least yet awhile; I find by letters from Utrecht, that the Dutch seemed extremely desirous, and the Imperialists willing to have the arbitration of these disputes, between the Emperor and the Elector of Bavaria, referred to her Majesty singly, and to have a term fixed, as well for the commencement, as for the determination of the discussion and decision of this affair; if this proposal should be accepted on all hands, one might hope for a speedy and happy conclusion of what I am afraid will otherwise continue a long time unsettled.

The proposition of the French Ministers concerning Italy, with Monsieur de Torcy's explanation thereof, dated 16th of April, seems indeed, to answer her Majesty's intentions,

tions, and to clear the French Court from the suspicion of effecting any delay in concluding the peace with the Emperor. The only observation which was made in Council, was upon the last paragraph in the paper which your Grace transmitted both to my Lord Dartmouth and me: *Les quatre places sur les côtes de la Toscane sont censées d'appartenir à la Maison d'Autriche.*

The Queen thinks that there is here some ambiguity, which ought to be removed; these places have been *censées d'appartenir à la maison d'Autriche* ever since the Queen spoke to her Parliament in June last, and communicated the terms of peace, which were at that time offered by France. It should therefore be understood, that these places are to be yielded to the Emperor as soon as his peace with France and Spain is concluded, and that he is not to be kept out of possession of them until the Italian interests are adjusted.

I believe I writ to your Grace formerly all that I had to say, or that I knew concerning Monsieur Gaspar d'Aubigny; he had been useful to the late Duke of Hamilton, and on that account the Queen would have been
glad

glad, if any provision might have been made for him in France; but your Grace will judge that it is not her Majesty's design to lay so great a weight on this matter, as to have it be set like an obligation to her account.

Your Grace's letter of the 24th, was very welcome, and the Queen concurs with your Grace in thinking (which you will please likewise to express where it may be proper) that the Court of France agreed to the declaratory article, transmitted in my letter of the 8th instant, O.S. in the fairest manner, and with the best grace.

By a letter of the 25th of April, N.S. which I just now received from Utrecht, I am informed, that my Lords her Majesty's Ambassadors had proposed the same thing to the Plenipotentiaries of France, who made a difficulty, without fresh orders, of complying; it is therefore very happy that those orders were so quickly dispatched to them, since there will be little or no delay by this means, in exchanging the ratifications, after those, which my brother carried from hence, arrive. I must own to your Grace, that I look on the gaining of this point as a very important

portant advantage, though my Lords at Utrecht are of opinion that the matter was so very plain before, as to make it indifferent in what words it was expressed. Your Grace will see in a little time, that the explanation now obtained, will not only gain great advantage to us in the settlement of our trade, but will likewise entirely enhance the merit of our treaty of commerce, and obviate those very objections which the people, who were prepared to be angry, expect to have it in their power to make, and for the adding the greater strength to which, the same people have been preparing the way, by meetings in the City, and by petitions to her Majesty, from those concerned in the woollen manufactures, in the plantation trade, &c.

It will be expedient, that the articles of cession should, without loss of time, be dispatched to Utrecht, and delivered to her Majesty's Ministers; I will only mention one reason to your Grace upon this head: the fishing season is already begun, Nicholson is ready to go with those troops, which are to take possession of Newfoundland; and I think it would be a blot, which might be fairly hit, if we should lose, even this season, the advantage

vantage of that which the Queen has a right to call her own, from the exchange of the ratifications.

I am sorry my Lord Lexington and Mr. Gilligan are ill; the latter will be very much wanted here, and I believe he has, before this time, dispatched all that remained for him to do at Madrid. I will take care that he shall find, on his arrival at Paris, instructions in what manner to treat with the French Guinea Company, if he shall not have finished that affair with their agents in Spain, whither I think the petition of this Company to the Most Christian King, was some time ago referred.

The Duc d'Aumont has put into my hands, a memorial, whereby the French merchants, who are concerned in the asiento, desire, under pretence of fetching their factors and effects home, permission to send three ships, one to the coast of Caraca, which afterwards is to make a trading voyage to Carthagená, Porto Bello, and the Havana, and two others to carry slaves on account of our Company from the coast of Guinea to Buenos Ayres, and from thence to bring back a great quantity of hides which

which they pretend lay at that place upon their hands. Your Grace will observe that these propositions can never be accepted, since they are directly repugnant to what has been agreed with France, and formally stipulated with Spain; the utmost which can be done in favour of the French Guinea Company, is to have a fair valuation made of all their effects in the West Indies, which they may be desirous to dispose of there, to oblige our merchants to buy these, and to bring home the remainder of their goods and their factors and servants who are in the several *comptoirs*, at a moderate price, to be settled per ton and per head.

I wish the news which the Swedish Minister communicated to your Grace may prove true; we have no certain accounts from those parts fresher than the 8th and 9th of February, and those were of a very different hue.

Monsieur Cronstrom thinks we are grown cool in our disposition towards saving his master; and I can assure your Grace that the Duke d'Aumont is very warm, in his suspicions that we are entered into measures with the Northern allies, the States-General, and several

several Princes of the Empire, for imposing a peace on Sweden, and for parcelling out their dominions on this side of the Baltic. I have frequently assured the latter, and I believe it will be proper that your Grace should speak in the same style, that her Majesty has entered into no engagements whatsoever, relating to the affairs of the North, but what are public, that is to say, she has entered into none since the guaranty given for the neutrality of the Empire; and the parties concerned, may very easily judge from her precaution in taking measures to relieve Sweden, in this article of distress, that she will not be very forward to assist those, who have profited too much already of their enemy's misfortunes and obstinacy, and who have carried their success farther than is consistent with the general interest of Europe.

It is necessary upon this occasion, I believe, that I should acquaint your Grace with what I imagine is the true reason why the Swedes think us cool towards them. A deduction has been prepared, of the several obligations which her Majesty lies under to the Northern powers, of their reciprocal obligations

obligations to her and to each other, and of the several steps which have been made by the parties concerned, contrary to their several obligations: the result of this is, that the Queen appears to be much more a free agent, than the Princes of the North, and particularly the King of Sweden, would have her think herself; an end will surely be put to that practice, of which I have seen too many instances, of calling on her Majesty to make good engagements, the conditions whereof were broke by the very persons who demanded the execution of them.

Many overtures have, within these two years, come to her Majesty's hands, concerning schemes for the peace of the North, and particularly some of those proposals (which I hear have been since published in a Haerlem Gazette) whereat the Swedish and French Ministers appear equally alarmed; but your Grace may very safely affirm, that the Queen has treated on none of them, and the only step her Majesty has hitherto made, has been to call on those powers, who are parties to the same guaranties with her, to consider how far the obligations of guaranties extend, and to concert measures for
the

the joint-execution of what shall appear to be binding. What answer the Queen will receive, I cannot tell, but I hope her Majesty will not advance in this affair, unless those, who are equally engaged by treaty, and more concerned in interest, keep an equal pace with her.

The Queen enters into your Grace's sentiments, as to the necessity of endeavouring to remove any obstacle, that may yet remain, in the way of the Emperor's peace; she has already done all in her power towards easing the difficulty, on which the Imperial Ministers broke off, and will continue to do the same, as other opportunities offer themselves; but indeed, my Lord, should the Court of Vienna be tempted to let the term of the first of June lapse, they must lay at their own door, and cannot lay at the Queen's, the ill consequences which may follow, some of which your Grace mentions. I hear that the Imperial Ministers think, that the neutrality of Italy, giving them nothing to do on one side, and the cession of the Low Countries, nothing to do on the other, by which means there can be no scene

of action between France and them, but on the Rhine, they may venture another campaign. They imagine that the 24,000 Imperialists, which are marching from Flanders, the evacuation of Catalonia, the draught of troops from Italy, and the contingent of the Princes of the Empire, added to the force which they have already on the Rhine, will form such an army, as may oblige the French to give them better conditions ; at worst, they think if any ill event happens, the four Circles may suffer, but the Emperor's dominions will not be exposed. This is a very gay scheme, and the Court of Vienna is very easily dazzled with the appearances of things. I cannot, however, persuade myself, that the Emperor will act upon it ; I rather hope, Sinzendorf will return to Utrecht, and come to a composition on the two last disputed articles, the treaty of Illmersheim, and the affairs of Italy ; wherein the French must continue reasonable, and all may be ended.

It is with great pleasure that I take this opportunity of making my congratulations and compliments to your Grace, on the
happy

happy conclusion of a peace, never more necessary, and never more opposed.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, April 19th, 1713, O.S.

NOTWITHSTANDING the length of my other dispatch, I must take the liberty of troubling your Grace with a separate letter, to acknowledge the honour of those in your own hand, of the 11th, 18th, and 24th, N.S.

I can say nothing more than I have already said, concerning d'Aubigny; Duke Hamilton had solicited the Queen to commend him, after his death, others of the family made the same application, which produced the letter I had the honour to write to your Grace. I take the Queen's sense to be, that if any preferment can be obtained for him, without interesting her too far in his behalf, she will be glad of it; but her Majesty does not desire to have her name very directly used, nor the thing insisted upon as a formal request. If Lord

Selkirk should fail in his other negociations, he may, perhaps, succeed in this.

The Queen is entirely of the sentiment your Grace expresses in yours of the 18th, concerning the acts of renunciation, and has therefore no farther directions to give on that head.

I much wonder that your Grace has received no letter from Lord Treasurer, about the *bona immobilia*, since he persists to say that he writ to you; be that as it will, your Grace will please to assure the King and Ministers, that the subjects of France may expect, from the Queen, the treatment they desire in this respect, and that her Majesty makes no doubt but the King will on his part show the indulgence desired by her to the Protestants who are in the galleys. I have spoke of this matter lately to the Duke d'Aumont, upon a hint which I met with in a letter from Monsieur de Torcy to Gaultier.

I have talked with the Queen, and with Lord Treasurer, concerning that very necessary article, which you are pleased, my Lord, to mention, of a Minister to succeed the Duke d'Aumont at our Court. They
2 both

both seemed to have no other thought but this, that the person sent hither, ought to be in the confidence of Monsieur de Torcy. This undoubtedly is right, but I would take leave to add, that I could wish he were rather of the character of Envoyé than of Ambassador, since it is certain, that we can more easily find one to fit the former than the latter.

I protest to your Grace, and I dare say you will believe me, that nothing has been omitted here to work up our Ministers at Utrecht, to act with zeal in the Duke of St. Pierre's cause, and since your last advertisement, I have again wrote to my Lords, in the strongest terms I am able to dictate. My Lord Treasurer has told me that he will do the same, and I hope he will not forget the promise. Your Grace may with great truth assure Monsieur de Torcy, and the Croissy family, that the Queen does really, on their account, take this matter very much to heart, and that there is no expedient, which they can think proper, which her Majesty will not convert into a positive order to her servants.

I spoke to Lord Treasurer about Matt's

journey to Turin, which is a very kind thought, and every way proper: my Lord seemed to be of the same mind, and I hope to be able, by the next opportunity, to tell your Grace that he has shown he is so.

It is impossible to conclude this letter without once more congratulating your Grace on the happy conclusion of the peace. Indeed, my Lord, when I reflect on the difficulties, and disadvantages of all kinds, which influenced the negociation, I cannot help saying, "it is the Lord's work, and it is marvellous in our eyes."

Our Session is begun, and I am persuaded will proceed, as I had the honour to foretel your Grace; the spirit among the well-affected keeps up, and their numbers increase; the others, clamour and struggle, but in my opinion, very unpopularity, and much more to our advantage than their own.

Surely, my Lord, without any affectation of being wiser than one's betters, a man may say, that the Queen has it now in her power to establish such a plan, as she may pursue for the rest of her reign, and as those, who wish well to their country, have long desired to see.

No

No man living is with truer respect and zeal, my Lord Duke, your Grace's, &c.

A Madame la Marquise de Croissy.

De Whitehall, ce 19me Avril, 1713.

JE suis ravi, Madame, de savoir que vous avez été contente de la montre, que je me suis donné l'honneur de vous envoyer par Monsieur de Vertou.

Il n'y a rien que je chercherois avec plus d'empressement, que les occasions de vous plaire ; chacun est utile dans ce monde selon sa capacité, & l'on peut avoir quelque degré de mérite même dans les bagatelles.

J'espère, Madame, que vous êtes convaincu que j'ai tâché d'en avoir dans une affaire d'importance, je veux dire dans celle de Monsieur le Duc de St. Pierre. Les ordres de la Reine ont été renouvelés à Messieurs les Plénipotentiaires, depuis peu de jours, dans des termes les plus forts & les plus précis sur ce sujet. Je veux espérer que les effets répondront aux mesures qui ont été prises, ce qu'il y a de certain, c'est que, de mon côté, je ne négligerai rien, qui

puisse contribuer à la réussite des prétensions de ceux, qui ont l'honneur de vous appartenir, étant, avec un profond respect,

Madame, votre, &c.

A l'Evêque de Montpélier.

De Whitehall, ce 19^{me} Avril, 1713.

PERMETTEZ-moi, Monsieur, de me servir de l'occasion que le retour de l'Abbé Gaultier en France me fournit, pour vous faire ressouvenir d'un homme, sur le cœur duquel votre mérite & vos bontés ont fait des impressions, qui ne pourront jamais s'effacer.

J'ai vu le gentilhomme dont vous m'avez recommandé les intérêts, & j'ai tâché de lui rendre tous les services, qui dépendoient de moi. Comme il ne s'est adressé depuis quelque tems à moi, j'espère que son procès aura été terminé, de la manière qu'il l'a souhaité.

J'aurai l'honneur de vous envoyer dans peu le César que je vous ai promis, & je me flatte que dans toutes les occasions, où je serai assez heureux pour pouvoir vous être bon à quelque chose, vous vous servirez de moi

moi comme d'un homme qui vous est entièrement acquis, & qui fera toute sa vie très parfaitement, Monsieur, &c.

From Mr. Prior.

MY LORD,

Paris, April 8th, 1713.

THE Duke of Shrewsbury sends your Lordship the state of our affairs in Spain, to which I hope our own in England will so far correspond, as to open soon to us the scenes of an honourable peace and a good Parliament: I hope I shall have my Lord Treasurer's orders, and your opinion, as to my own particular or public figure. These people, who you know are curious and impertinent enough upon such heads, begin to question me so closely, that I sometimes wish I knew how to turn the discourse: upon the whole, I am ashamed to trouble you, my dear Lord, any farther, and I will write of it more to Dartmouth. I have again interested all our friends, Monsieur de Torcy particularly, in behalf of poor Monsieur Calendrini; I hope I shall do him service;

vice; and, in every thing that can relate to you, approve myself most truly, &c.

M. PRIOR.

To his Grace the Duke of Shrewsbury.

(With Montaigne's Essays; inclosed in the above letter.)

DICTATE, O mighty Judge, what thou hast seen
Of cities and of courts, of books and men,
And deign to let thy servant hold the pen.

Through ages thus I might presume to live,
And from the transcript of thy prose receive
What my own short-liv'd verse can never give.

Thus should fair Britain, with a gracious smile,
Receive the work; the venerable isle,
For more than treaties made, should bless my toil.

Nor longer hence the Gallic style preferr'd,
Wisdom in English idiom should be heard,
While Shrewsbury told the world where Montaigne err'd,

—Are they good?

What think you of an oak, which is Britain;
a trophy of arms at the bottom of it;
a wreath of palm, hung on the tree; over
the trophy—*innumeris potior*.

From Mr. Prior.

MY LORD,

Versailles, April 7th-18th, 1713.

I AM, you may be sure, extremely glad,
that, by what the Duke of Shrewsbury
writes in answer to your public orders, the
I affairs

affairs of Italy, in relation to the Emperor's interests, are consented to by this Court, in the manner you desire : I cannot thank you enough for your explanatory letter upon that head, without which, I doubt, we should not have been able to send you so plain and good an account.

I am, and will be, directed by the private word of advice you gave me, the 26th past, in relation to my affair of figure ; the Duke of Shrewsbury thinks it very right. I congratulate you most sincerely upon the birth of your beautiful daughter, the peace, after all the pangs you have for so long time suffered, from the ignorance of some of our English men-midwives.

The present to Madame de Croissy is the finest thing I ever saw, and she thinks so. I am in haste—the messenger just going. If I had more time, what signifies it?—it is impossible for me to say how much I love you, and impertinent to tell you how much I am obliged to you.

Send Barton over to me, Madame de Croissy will have it so, and Monsieur de Torcy ; the fellow has suffered a good deal for one fault ; his bones were broke in
France,

France, and his heart, he says, will break if he does not come back to the entry, Adieu. See poor D. Shelton, and comfort him :

—————*Nam defluit ætas
Et pelagi patiens, & cassidis, atque ligonis.*

Not only so, but remember Lord Treasurer of him ; for your goodness to me must not be confined to my person only. God bless you : adieu.

I have writ to your brother Dartmouth an account of naval causes and prizes, and passports, in a long letter, which, if you see, help to clear or to condemn me.

M. PRIOR.

—————
To Mr. Prior.

Whitehall, April 20th, 1713.

BY the fat priest, who returns to France to take possession of another sinecure, I acknowledge, dear Mat, the favour of your last, of the 18th.

You have stood us in great stead at Paris, not only in the business of Italy, but in that very important point, for such I must think it, of the four excepted species.

I am

I am glad the eclairsissements, which I endeavoured to give my Lord Duke of Shrewsbury were of use; I know enough of the superiority of his genius, and the candour of his temper, to be free from all apprehension, that he would blame me for being too officious out of my department, or too nice in it; and therefore, took upon me to write fully to him concerning the two articles above mentioned.

There are those in the world who, I believe, think me troublesome; but I have the satisfaction, in my turn, of knowing them to be ignorant.

I am confirmed that the advice I gave you, about your own affairs, was right, and am glad you follow it. I am apt to think you may be sent to Turin, I own I am mightily fond of the project. But this is one of those *arcana imperii nostri*, about which, I dare not affirm any thing positive.

The peace is made, and I thank your friendship for the compliment upon it.

I have acquired some experience, and that is all I expect, besides the public advantage, to gain by it. I have learned that one should never despair, and that perseverance will
make

make amends for many defects in measures and in conduct. I have learned that, in Britain at least, doing little is better than doing much, and doing nothing is better than either.

I will remember my Lord Treasurer of Dick Sheldon, for whom I have a great deal of esteem, and I wish my offices may be of use to him.

Barton shall go back, but, indeed, he deserved mortification, and examples are necessary among that noble band of messengers.

Your's, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

Au Comte de Dernath.*

MONSIEUR,

Ce Mardi, 28me Avril, 1713.

QUAND les affaires dont je suis chargé me le permettent, je serai toujours ravi de vous voir, & de recevoir les ordres que vous avez à me donner. Nous n'avons reçu, que par les lettres qui sont arrivées hier, la réponse à ce que j'avois écrit en Hollande,

* The Danish Minister.

sur les affaires du Nord, & particulièrement sur celles de Holstein.

Vous savez, Monsieur, que les Etats-Généraux se trouvent, à ces égards, à peu près dans les mêmes engagements que la Reine, c'est pourquoi sa Majesté souhaiteroit d'y marcher de concert avec eux.

J'aurai l'honneur de vous parler plus amplement sur ce sujet demain, si vous prenez la peine de passer à midi au bureau de,

Monsieur, &c.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, April 28th, 1713.

I WOULD very readily inform you of the particulars you mention concerning the subsidies, if any resolution had been yet taken, as your Lordship was told, but indeed, my Lord, I know of none. My own private sense, I freely will communicate to you, and that is this: I take it for granted, that none of the Princes concerned, nor all of them put together, can hope to obtain from this Parliament, the least complaisance on the head of subsidies. A Parliament which sat during

during the last summer, which had its share in the transactions of that time, looks on itself as a party, to a great degree, in all that was then done, and I can assure you, that the resentments of our friends run extremely high ; besides, my Lord, gentlemen of the House of Commons have their new elections before their eyes, they are desirous to make the burden as light this year as possible, to feel, and make others feel instantly, the difference between war and peace, and to do nothing which may have an unpopular air, among those who are to choose them. The consequence, therefore, of moving now a supply for those arrears, would be a direct negative, and such a one, as would cut off all possibility of obtaining, hereafter, the least redress. Perhaps it is better for the Queen's service, that this matter should lie open, and a possibility subsist of obtaining, in a future session, what is impracticable in this ; use may be made of this leave in the course of the year.

I agree with your Lordship, that there is no wisdom in obliging by halves, and I think there is as little in disobliging by halves. The King of Prussia and the Duke of Savoy

voy have certainly the last obligations to the Queen, and I make no doubt but she will go on in her good intentions towards both of them; but indeed, my Lord, if the true interest of Britain be for the future pursued, she can have so seldom any occasion of them for her own interests, and they must so frequently stand in need of her favour, that I think, if her Majesty completes what she has done for these Princes, there seems to be no absolute necessity of her hastening to heap new obligations upon them.

Your Lordship is a good friend, and Marshalch has found it so; he is indeed a deserving man; and by your Lordship's example, I will do the little that depends on me to make his Court perceive that he may be more useful, than another, to the King's affairs, in this country.

The French are too artificial, and the instance your Lordship gives is, in my opinion, a gross instance thereof; the Imperialists are, on the other hand, too obstinate and too narrow in their councils. I hope, however, that they will be brought to agree, and the prospect seems fair enough. Your Lordship could not at this time employ yourself in

any thing more useful, and I hope the success will answer your endeavours.

I had not, I confess, any notion, that there was the least probability of the Emperor's agreeing to the Elector of Bavaria's being Governor of the Netherlands, and it is hard at once to say what my opinion is on this head. Thus much I think is exceeding clear, that unless by the marriage of an Archduchess, and by other present and remote advantages, the House of Austria do entirely gain the Elector of Bavaria, he is the most dangerous person that the government of those provinces can be trusted to, for the Dutch, for us, for all Europe.

Montéleon will soon be with you, we can no longer defer laying before the two Houses the terms of peace; and therefore when the treaties with France are by her Majesty's order communicated, a copy of the project, now finally settled with Montéleon, which you will receive next post, and which hardly differs at all from that sent last post, is to be communicated too.

To render this project more authentic, Montéleon is to sign an acknowledgment thereof,

thereof, and a promise to execute the same in form, at Utrecht. I am, my Lord, &c.

A Monsieur le Duc d'Aumont.

De Whitehall, ce 1me Mai, 1713.

VOUS pouvez, Monsieur, assurer le Roi, que les bons offices de la Reine seront vivement employés, pour porter tant sa Majesté Impériale que son Altesse Electorale Palatine à consentir à cet expédient, & à tout autre qui pourra être convenable aux intérêts communs, afin de rendre la paix générale.

Il est indubitable, Monsieur, qu'il convient à l'Empereur de conserver les fortifications de Brisac, & celles du fort Kehl: il convient aussi à Monsieur de Bavière de rentrer dans la possession de ses états & dans l'exercice de ses droits, non-seulement par rapport au tems présent, mais aussi par rapport aux vues qu'il peut avoir, & à l'avenir. Permettez moi d'ajouter qu'il convient à la France, aussi-bien qu'à la Grande Bretagne, que la paix soit définitive & générale.

Nous n'attendons que les ratifications, qui doivent avoir été échangées Mardi dernier, pour faire proclamer dans les formes la

paix avec la France. Vous n'ignorez pas les bruits, que font courir ces génies fécondes en menfonges, fur le fujet des ratifications; bruits que les gens fages méprifent, & qui n'attirent l'attention que des fots.

Je fuis, Monfieur, &c.

To the Earl of Orrery.

Whitehall, May 1st, 1713.

YOU would, my dear Lord, be very much in the wrong if you imagined your letters a trouble, or your commands a burthen to me. I receive both with great pleasure, and am only forry when I cannot answer one, and obey the other, fo fatisfactorily and fo fuccefsfully as I wish to do.

I was not forgetful of your interest, when Lord Cholmondely was removed, but do not find there is any poffibility of getting a declaration upon that head, till the feflion of Parliament is over, and that I believe will not continue long.

Notwithstanding the airs, which the Emperor and his Minifters give themselves, I am much miftaken if he lets the first of June pafs, without coming into the peace. In this
case,

case, the cession of the Low Countries, which is at present lodged in the Queen's hands, must be directly made to him, and that will follow so soon, that you would not, I am sure, think proper to leave your post, neither would there be time to send over any person to relieve you. A few days will determine the point if he does not come in, and I will move her Majesty, in this case, to appoint some person to succeed you. Let me have early notice of your desires and measures, and I will endeavour to serve you. We are winding up a great game, and I know your Lordship's part will not be wanting, where the service of the Queen, the interest of your country, and the honour of your friends, are so much concerned.

Adieu, my dear Lord, I am, &c.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, May 1st, 1713.

YOUR Lordship may be assured that I will do my best to serve Mr. Ayerst*. His

* Chaplain and Secretary to the Earl of Strafford; he brought to London the ratification of the treaties.

personal merit is great, and I am sure his recommendation is so too. I hope he will succeed. I am, &c.

To Lord Lexington.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, May 1713.

BESIDES what my other letter contains, I am to tell your Lordship, that I have not failed to represent to the Queen, the ill state of health which you enjoy in Spain, and the necessity which there is, upon this and other accounts, of recalling your Lordship, as soon as the business you are engaged in, and the ceremony you are afterwards to go through, are over. I have likewise put Lord Treasurer in mind, of what your Lordship expects from his friendship in this affair, and in relation to your appointments: in both, your Lordship may, I think, promise yourself satisfaction, and I hope you depend upon my best services, whenever you please to command them.

The treaties of peace and commerce being laid before the Houses, we shall soon see what turn those, who oppose the Queen's measures,

measures, will take ; my opinion is, that the weakness of their cause, and the weakness of their numbers, will determine them to set quiet ; in which case, our session will be over by the end of June.

I must not conclude this letter without thanking your Lordship for the favour you have been pleased to show to all those whom I have recommended to your protection ; I hope they make the returns they ought ; certain it is, that your goodness shall be always remembered by, my Lord,

Your Lordship's, &c.

*A Madame la Princesse des Ursins *.*

8me Mai, 1713.

JE réponds, Madame, à la lettre que votre Altesse a bien voulu m'écrire, avec tous les
sentimens

* This remarkable woman was the daughter of Noirmouf-tier, who figured away in the troubles during the minority of Louis XIV, and became Duke à-brevet. She first married Blaise de Talleyrand, who assumed the title of Prince de Chalais, and was concerned in the duel against the Laffrettes, in which the eldest son of the Duke de Beauvilliers was killed. He fled to Spain, where she joined him, but soon after her journey to Rome, he died. She there had recourse to Cardinals de Bouillon and d'Etrées, who took care of her, on account of her name and country, and established her there.

sentimens de respect & de reconnoissance, qu'une telle honneur doit exiger de moi.

Si d'un côté je ne puis pas me flatter d'avoir cette étendue d'esprit que Monsieur le Marquis de Monteleon m'attribue, j'ose, Madame, assurer votre Altesse de l'autre côté,

She had no fortune, and no children. The Cardinals persuaded the old Duke of Bracciano, head of the house des Ursins, that he was in love with her; and to obtain the King's consent to the marriage, stated the acquisition it would be to that Monarch, to gain a man of the Duke's consequence: the thought was approved, Bracciano became a knight of the King's orders, and the marriage was solemnized in 1675. Upon the dispute of Louis with Pope Innocent, Bracciano returned his collar of knighthood. Madame, at Rome, displayed her wit and her charms, and formed a court at the palace des Ursins, where her lord was treated as a being of little consequence; their quarrels and separations were frequent, and she then used to take her journies to Paris, where she remained sometimes two or three years together. The Duke died at Rome, in 1698, aged 78, with the title of Prince de Seglio. Don Livio Odescalchi bought the duchy of Bracciano, on condition that the widow should drop that title, and she then assumed that of des Ursins. Cardinal d'Estrées had influence with Portocarrero, the Minister of Spain; and obtained for her the place of Camarara-major to the Princess of Savoy, then Queen to Philip V. She a long while governed the Spanish councils, and, by communicating information to Madame de Maintenon, gained her friendship, and in some degree swayed those of France. In 1709, Louis XIV and Philip King of Spain, determined upon her disgrace, and she was accordingly banished; but she effected her immediate restoration to power and influence; and at the date of this letter had prevailed upon the Kings of France and Spain, and in a great measure too upon the Queen of Great Britain, to second her views of independent sovereignty in the Netherlands; but her final disgrace, immediately upon the marriage of Philip, with his second Queen, Elizabeth of Parma, in 1713, put an end to her vanity, her ambition, and her influence.

qu'elle

qu'elle trouvera toujours de la droiture & de la fermeté de cœur dans toutes les occasions, où il lui plaira de m'employer.

Nous savons, Madame, Monsieur d'Oxford & moi, parfaitement bien, à qui nous sommes redéevables des favorables dispositions de leurs Majestés Catholiques à notre égard. Nous sommes pénétrés d'une vive reconnoissance, & nous tâcherons, par notre conduite, de mériter le titre honorable de bons Espagnols ; c'est dans ce caractère, que je félicite votre Altesse, de l'heureuse grossesse de la Reine, & que je prie Dieu qu'il conserve sa Majesté, afin qu'elle donne encore d'autres héros à l'Espagne, & qu'elle assure, par une nombreuse race, la tranquillité de l'Europe, qui vient d'être rétablie.

En effet, Madame, le grand ouvrage de la paix n'est plus incertain. Toutes les puissances, engagées dans la guerre, viennent de signer leurs traités avec la France ; & sont prêtes à faire de même avec l'Espagne, à l'exception de sa Majesté Impériale, qui marchant sur les traces de ses prédécesseurs *, veut être le dernier à conclure.

* At the peace of Ryfwick, the Emperor was the last that came into the measure.

J'ai

J'ai communiqué au Marquis de Monteleon, les avis que nous avons reçu, touchant les intentions de la Cour de Vienne, & le jugement que nous formons là-dessus.

Il faut qu'il s'attende à effuyer quelques difficultés dans la négociation, tant de la part des Impériaux, que de la part des Hollandois ; mais, habil comme il est, ces difficultés ne serviront qu'à augmenter sa réputation, & à mettre dans tout son jour ce zèle indéfatigable, dont il est rempli pour le service du Roi son maître. Il ne manquera pas d'être secondé, dans toutes les négociations, par Messieurs les Plénipotentiaires de la Reine, qui n'auront plus rien à contester avec lui ; les intérêts réciproques de la Reine & du Roi Catholique étant, à la fin, entièrement ajustés.

Ce n'est pas, Madame, le seul avantage qui reviendra, d'avoir arrêté le projet de paix entre nos deux cours. Nous ôtons par ce moyen aux ennemis de la paix une belle occasion qu'ils auroient eu, & dont ils n'auroient pas manqué de se servir, si la Reine avoit été obligée, quand elle communique les traités de paix & de commerce avec la France aux deux chambres du Parlement, ce qui se doit faire aujourd'hui, de parler de la négociation avec l'Espagne

l'Espagne comme étant encore ouverte, & si par ce moyen la connoissance des points disputés fut venue à des assemblées si nombreuses, & par conséquent si difficiles à gouverner.

On m'avertit d'Utrecht, que Monsieur d'Aubigny *, qui prend soin des intérêts de votre Altesse, est arrivé ; je me flatte qu'il sera content des Plénipotentiaires de la Reine, & j'ose assurer votre Altesse, que ces Messieurs sont tellement instruits & autorisés, en conformité des mesures concertées ici entre Monsieur de Montéleon & moi, que, de manière ou d'autre, ses prétensions ne pourront pas manquer de réussir, & d'obtenir toute la sûreté que la Garantie de la Reine leur puisse donner.

Le yacht de sa Majesté, qui doit porter en Hollande, le Marquis de Montéleon, étant prêt, je compte que nous allons perdre, en très peu de jours, un Ministre qui s'est fait également estimer & chérir dans ce pays.

* This man was the creature of her own forming, and executed all her schemes, in Spain and elsewhere. She dispatched him to France, where, by her orders, he built a Palace, called Chanteloup, near Tours ; the world was long at a loss to know on what account so princely a mansion was built, in a spot where no domain was attached to it, at last, it appeared that it was for d'Aubigny, there he caroused, and enjoyed the reward of his labours in her service.

Dans mon particulier, je suis inconsolable. Je perds, en même-tems, le plaisir de traiter avec un Ministre habil, & de vivre avec un ami agréable. Je joins à ces sentimens, le regret de quitter ces Messieurs * qui sont venus de France avec lui. Pour me dédommager, en quelque façon, de ces malheurs, j'ai tâché, mais inutilement, de persuader au Comte de Montijo†, de s'amuser encore plus long-tems à Londres ; si j'avois pu réussir, j'aurai fait ma cour à tout ce qu'il y a de meilleur chez nous, car tout le monde a été surpris de la conduite de ce jeune Seigneur. Il est rare de trouver autant de jugement avec autant de vivacité, & une si grande connoissance du monde, dans un âge si peu avancé.

Je serois indigne des bontés, dont il a plu à votre Altesse de me combler, si je ne lui rendois mes très humbles remerciemens d'avoir pris sous sa protection, un gentilhomme de mes parens, qui a du mérite dans son metier, & de lui avoir procuré la charge qu'il occupe dans les gardes de sa Majesté Catholique. Je ferai toute ma vie pénétré

* Duke d'Atri, Marquis de Grello, and Count Bardi.

† Spanish Plenipotentiary.

de la plus vive reconnoissance, & je me ferai gloire de montrer, dans toutes les occasions, l'attachement très respectueux avec lequel j'ai l'honneur d'être, Madame, de votre Altesse, &c.

Je prends, Madame, la liberté d'ajouter quelques lignes à la lettre que j'ai eu l'honneur d'écrire à votre Altesse, pour avoir celle de lui dire, que les traités avec la France, aussi bien que celui avec l'Espagne, que Monsieur de Monteleon & moi avons signé provisionnellement, ont été communiqués, par ordre de la Reine, aux deux Chambres du Parlement. Nous nous sommes, Madame, fort bien apperçu, que les mesures des ennemis de la paix ont été rompues ici par ce pas. Pour les rompre de même par tout ailleurs, il faut que le Marquis de Monteleon se rend au plus vite à Utrecht, & qu'il y signe avec le Duc d'Osune*, la paix dans les formes.

Dans cette vûe, & sur ces principes, il seroit à souhaiter que les ratifications pussent être échangées au retour de ce courier ; ce qui pourra être fait, si le Roi veut bien les

* The chief Plenipotentiary of Spain, at the Hague, and afterwards Ambassador to the Court of Great Britain.

confier

confier à ses Plénipotentiaires en blanc, afin qu'ils y insèrent le traité, qu'ils auront signé avec ceux de la Reine. Excusez, Madame, la longueur de cette lettre; pardonnez-moi si j'abuse de votre bonté & de votre patience. Je me flatte par avance, que votre Altesse m'accordera cette grâce, quand elle fera réflexion, que mon unique but est de mettre hors de danger ce grand ouvrage, que nous avons si heureusement conduit jusques ici; de rétablir au plutôt l'ancienne amitié entre nos deux nations, de faciliter aux Ministres d'Espagne, ce qui leur reste à négocier à Utrecht, & de rendre la conclusion de la paix générale sûre, par la signature de la paix particulière. Je suis, Madame,
De votre Altesse, &c.

To the Earl of Orrery.

MY DEAR LORD,

Whitehall, May 13th, 1713.

I RECEIVE this moment the honour of your letters, public and private, of the 18th inst. but being obliged to dispatch the post, which has been kept a day longer than usual,
immediately,

immediately, I have only time to scribble a few words to your Lordship, on two points.

As to Nieuport, my Lord, you may look into the barrier treaty, a copy whereof I remember to have put into your Lordship's hands, and you will there find, that the Dutch have nothing to do with it, this town being excluded out of their barrier. Besides, it has been agreed that, for the intermediate time, and till the Emperor is pleased to accept of these Provinces, the Queen's troops shall remain in this place; whereof your Lordship ought to have been informed, and indeed I took it for granted that you was so.

As to your own affairs, I am your friend, and will speak to you of them, with the frankness which becomes that character.

The truly Austrian resolution, which his Imperial Majesty seems to have taken, of continuing a war, when he has neither allies, magazines, money, nor troops, put the Queen under a necessity of doing, what she would gladly have avoided, I mean, keeping her share in the government of the Netherlands some time longer. Should she evacuate the towns, and cease to act by a Minister at Brussels, the Dutch would remain

main sole masters in these countries, and have it in their power, as we sufficiently know they have it in their inclination, not only to avoid redressing the grievances, which our trade lies under, and which the Commissaries at Utrecht are now debating, but even to lay new hardships on us.

Your Lordship has, therefore, done well in not giving the least hint, as if the Queen would quit her part of the administration yet a while, since, whatever she might intend when I writ formerly to you, the Emperor's measures make her resolve to keep the hold she has now. Your Lordship will, on this foot, consider, whether you will think it right, in so critical a circumstance, to leave the post you are in. You are uneasy, and your affairs require your presence here. My Lord, uneasy hours are the fate of almost every man who serves the public, and he who acts with zeal, must, to some degree, neglect his own business; sure I am, I have found both these propositions to be true in their utmost extent.

The formal licence which your Lordship desired of coming home whenever you thought proper, could, by no means, be granted.

granted. The Queen, it is true, did give this in two instances, but I believe she never will do it in any other, and indeed it is out of all rule. Let me know your final resolution by the first post. If you come over, I will take care to give it a right turn to the Queen; but pray, my Lord, be positive as to your continuing or not continuing in that post, because every post from Holland brings us fresh proofs, that the Dutch are not to be trusted alone in the Low Countries.

I see by these letters, what answer we are to receive as to the proposition of maintaining the Queen's troops.

Excuse the bluntness and frank manner in which I write, it proceeds from a heart wholly your's.

I am, and ever will be, your slave.

To the Earl of Strafford.

Whitehall, May , 1713.

SURELY, my Lord, your Excellency took a very right method, in acquainting the Queen yourself, with the compliment which

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the Electrefs of Hanover desired you to make. I am naturally neither jealous nor exceptious, and I know so well the friendship, which your Excellency honours me with, that I should not on any occasion, have the least umbrage at your proceedings.

I believe it would be absurd, at this time of day, to make a treaty for the Prussians; whatever voucher the pay-master may want, for satisfying those arrears, will, I believe, be got sooner, than we shall be ready to clear them. The Queen determines to make her people feel the good effects of peace, to as great a degree as she can, and, therefore, will be very slow in calling on them to provide for these debts. Can the Court of Prussia think of asking the Queen, whom they abandoned, for her part of the additional subsidy, when the States, to whom they adhered, do not agree to the payment of theirs? I am, my Lord,

Your Excellency's, &c.

To

To the Earl of Strafford.

Whitehall, May 16th, 1713.

I AM, my Lord, to acknowledge the honour of your letter of the 23d.

As to the first part thereof, I think there is not any need of your signing a treaty antedated for the 8000 Prussians *, neither would it be, in the present conjuncture, entirely proper.

As to Mr. Ayerst, he has had, and shall have, my best offices, and I hope to be to day at a certainty what I can do for him, on which he will take his measures, either of staying some time longer here, or of returning to your Lordship.

The French are, we find by our last letters from Paris, pouring on the Rhine and Moselle a much greater number of troops than they at first intended. It cannot enter into my head, that the Emperor will be in any condition to oppose them; so that I must still live in hope the negociation will be quickly renewed. I am apt to think that,

* The Prussians had been continued in the pay of Great Britain and the States, without any renewal of the first treaty for them.

in all events, the Germans will pay for their pride, and learn, when it is too late, that Utrecht was the best place they could have finished their treaty in.

I am, my Lord, &c.

To the Lord Privy Seal.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, May 16th, 1713.

I MOST humbly thank your Lordship for the private letter of the 8th instant, N.S. brought by Mr. Rowland, and for the hint which you are pleased to give me therein.

Most certainly, my Lord, the necessities of Sweden, and the interest of Great Britain, call for the same thing; and if the Dutch would lay this matter to heart, and concert frankly about it with the Queen, your Lordship would see all the spirit exerted on our side that is to be desired. I do not know how far it may be expedient to let the French into a share of this negociation, which I find by many tokens they earnestly desire, but I have often thought, that in case this should be judged proper, the work would thereby, in one respect, be greatly facilitated;

ed; there being many things fit for them to press or to oppose, which we cannot so properly take part in.

The first step is to set a treaty on foot, and the first step towards that seems to be the coming of C. Velligh, or some person of equal power, into Holland. I am, &c.

To Mr. Wich.

S I R,

Whitehall, May 26th, 1713.

I CHOOSE to put into a letter a-part, what I have to say to you upon the subject of Monsieur Weddercop, as being a private business. I have often spoken to C. Vandernath upon that matter, and if one gentleman is to be believed to another, he assures me, he has not only writ to the administrator, but likewise received a favourable answer; he gave me one hint, which, as your friend, I think it for your service to communicate to you: he wished that you would not mingle any thing of private pique in this business, and then he thought it would do. If Monsieur Goertz and you have any animosity, one against the other, it would be

much the best to drop it, in this matter, and by that means you might more smoothly and easily obtain your purpose.

I shall further it as much as lies in my power, and remind Monsieur Vandernath of his promises, which I hope will come to good effect, at least leave them no excuse. Forgive the plainness of, Sir,

Your very faithful, humble servant,

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Paris, May 9th, 1713, N.S.

THIS is to acquaint your Lordship, that on Friday last, I received a courier from Lord Privy Seal, desiring me to procure from this Court, the expedition of the acts of cession of St. Christopher's and Nova Scotia, to be delivered at the exchange of the ratifications, in conformity to the twelfth article of our treaty of peace.

His Lordship at the same time acquainted me, that the Dutch ministers were very much embarrassed, concerning the act of cession, the Elector of Bavaria is to give of

the Spanish Netherlands to the States-General, in favour of the House of Austria; and therefore entreated me to press this Court, that the said act may be dispatched, and deposited in the hands of her Majesty's ministers, at the same time that the French and Dutch ratifications are to be exchanged, as stipulated in one of the articles of their treaty of peace.

I immediately writ to Monsieur de Torcy, at Marli, where the Court now is, and desired him to get the said several acts dispatched and sent to Utrecht; he sent me word, that as soon as he could get the act of cession from the Elector of Bavaria (who was with him, and had promised it that day) he would forthwith dispatch a courier with both the acts to their Ambassadors; of which I gave my Lord Privy Seal notice; and on Sunday morning early, Monsieur de Torcy sent me a letter, acquainting me, that the express, which brought me the letter, was then carrying to Utrecht, the patent or act of cession of St. Christopher's and Acadie, in due form, according to the tenour of the article of our treaty, and under the Great Seal; as also the act of cession from the Elector of Bava-

ria ; so that nothing now can hinder the exchange of the ratifications.

By letters from Madrid, I see that Lord Lexington is not yet quite recovered, and that Mr. Gilligan continues still very ill.

That Marechal Staremberg defers the evacuating Catalonia, till the arrival of Admiral Jennings, and General Rofs.

Mr. Prior has been very ill of a violent cholic and pleuritical pain, but is now upon the mending hand.

Marechal d'Harcourt has had a fit of an apoplexy, it is thought he will recover, but not be in a condition to serve this campaign.

I am, my Lord, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

From Mr. Prior.

Paris, April 10th, 1713.

PERMIT me, my dear Lord, to trouble you with a medicinal case, in which your friend Matt has been the patient : on Monday was sevensnight, I was very suddenly taken ill, at Versailles, with a sort of cholera morbus, or overflowing of the bile ; the effect of which was, that after the emetic, I vomitted

mitted about twelve hours; very bad; was blooded; blood gall itself, worse yet. When in the midst of these ugly circumstances, a skillful Physician, one Lauderdale, who tended me, saw that an imposthume was happily broke; it was what neither he, nor I, nor any man ever guessed I had; and lay upon the pleura: of this by his great attendance and help, I am discharged, and I believe it is all come away; I am better in health, than I have been these seven years, and may live to be a devouter man, than I have been, but never a more faithful subject to my Queen, nor a truer friend to my dear Lord Bolingbroke. Adieu, my Lord, your's, ever,

M. PRIOR.

Duke of Shrewsbury's concern for my carcase, and real joy upon my recovery, are inconceivable.

From Mr. Prior.

Paris, May 2nd-13th, 1713.

I AM extremely obliged to you, my dear Lord, for yours of the 20th April; as to the points of Italy, that of the four places upon
the

the coasts of Italy, stands, I think, as you desired. The Savoy Plenipotentiary hath applied to my Lord Dartmouth, as he has done to Monsieur de Torcy, for the immediate evacuation of what the French give in Savoy, and the county of Nice; and such orders are forwarded, and advice thereof given to the Count St. Thomas*: of this collaterally we have advised Mr. Chetwynd†, so that whole affair stands to his Royal Highness's content.

As to the business of the species, and upon that explanation of our own way of understanding our own commerce, we had like to have made an Athanasian business of it at Utrecht. Their letters to you, full of surmises and doubts, that all was unhinged, and their letters to us again, with copies of what they wrote to you, that explanations, however made, were only to save appearances, and signified nothing; this *mélange*, I say, and my endeavouring to understand it, had like to make me run mad, if the Duke of Shrewsbury's extreme good sense, and Monsieur de Torcy's not only

* First Minister to the Duke of Savoy.

† British Resident at Genoa.

honest,

honest, but right understanding, had not redressed us ; the service I did was, in letting Monsieur de Torcy see that our Plenipotentiaries, and Monsieur Mesnager, would every minute mistake farther, and that, without reference to what either of them had writ ; the Duke of Shrewsbury and himself, were immediately to set them beyond any possibility of disputing farther, or entering into the article, which had now nothing at all to do with any choice or refusal of the Dutch ; our whole treaty of commerce being separately, distinctly, and nationally agreed, long since, with France ; this I thought came up to that eclaircissement you gave us, and which served us *sicut lampas in tenebris* ; so I beg pardon for looking back, for it is with great satisfaction that I see the prospect clear, and what I have said is Mat to Henry, which when the friend has read, the Secretary of State may burn.

I am much obliged to you for your advice to me in my own affairs, and much in the right for following it. I have writ a long letter to your brother Dartmouth, concerning prizes and ships to be reclaimed ; the misunderstanding and abuses that have
been

been made, in filling up French passes are endless; and besides that our ships are confiscated here, we make a very poor and precarious figure, in some of our demands in this kind, but I hope we have an end of this sort of stuff with the peace, and this too is only the complaint of one friend to another, both of whom (for our honour) have the nation's interest and credit much at heart.

I am much better than I was, when I last wrote to you; the imposthume was fairly in my lungs, and if, after what must have killed me is removed, there will remain enough for the carrying on of life, is the question. — *Tu ne quæsieris scire, nefas, quem mihi quem tibi finem dii dederint.* At present, at least, I am better than I have been a great while.

Your huntress will be caught, if you have breath enough to follow her, and so will every huntress, from Atalanta and Diana, to Cloe and Nannette; it is only want of lungs that will distance you in the chase, so go tay-ho, tay-ho! and when you cough like me, hang up your hunting spear and shrill horn, and sit like me too, to write politic letters, and to think of nothing else, but performing
ing

ing the bare duties and obligations of life.
Adieu, I love to talk with you, and am ever
most truly, my Lord, your's,

M. PRIOR.

From Mr. Prior.

MY LORD,

Paris, May 10th-21st 1713.

THE Duke of Shrewsbury sends to Lord Dartmouth a new act of cession, signed by the Elector of Bavaria ; I do not doubt but it will answer all objections, and absolutely supply the place of that instrument which is to be withdrawn when this arrives.

We do not well know what to make of the Emperor's politics ; if he will come in the last day, according to the laudable custom of the House of Austria ? is the question. Villars goes from hence to-morrow, towards Germany ; these people are more alarmed upon this incertitude, than one would have imagined, they prepare in good earnest for a real campaign.

Duke of Shrewsbury's entry is fixed for Wednesday se'nnight ; his audience for the Friday, and all the parade to be over by Saturday

turday night, after which a month will receive and return all his public visits, and he is fully intent, as soon as possible, for England; immediately after the entry, is the time therefore for my trip to Savoy; this I have hinted to Lord Treasurer, pray second it; for you see we have but fourteen days, and her Majesty's order cannot come to me too soon.

Another thing of which the Duke of Shrewsbury will soon write to your Lordship, and of which I beg you to think, is the choice of a person to succeed him here; in discourse with Monsieur de Torcy, I find they intend you an Ambassador, and without farther detour, Monsieur d'Aligre * will be the man, in case Lord Treasurer and you approve him; he knows England, is a man of quality, and much Monsieur de Torcy's friend; of this, by Monsieur de Torcy's advice, I have wrote to Lord Treasurer, don't name Aligre, except Lord Treasurer names him to your Lordship, or you have it from the Duke of Shrewsbury; but when you have your eye upon some in England, of a like calibre and quality, I shall

* He was made prisoner during the war; and when here was much esteemed.

take it as a peculiar mark of your friendship, if you please to hint them to me.

Monsieur de Torcy takes it for granted, that you have a regard to the *bona immobilia* in the manner the French desire it; he recommends the inclosed Memoire * to your consideration.

I refer

* “*Mémoire des ports, havres, & terres, situés dans la province d’Acadie qui appartiennent à Monsieur le Duc, & à Madame la Duchesse de Noirmontier, & à quelques particuliers.*”

“Par un arrêt du Conseil d’Etat du dernier Février, 1682, le Roi a concédé à défunt Monsieur le Marquis de Cheury, père de Madame la Duchesse de Noirmontier, & à ses associés, sous les noms de quatre particuliers, qui en ont fait déclaration pour eux, leurs hoirs, successeurs, & ayant causes, les terres le long de la côte de l’Acadie, & de la rivière de St. Jean, pour y faire l’établissement d’une pêche sédentaire dans l’étendue de six lieues, aux environs de l’habitation qu’ils feroient, dont sa Majesté leur a fait don, à la charge de lui payer un redévance d’un marc d’argent par chacune année, & de faire l’établissement de la pêche sédentaire dans un an.

“En conséquence de cet arrêt, feu Messieurs le Marquis de Cheury & les Sieurs ses associés ont fait l’établissement de la pêche sédentaire à Chédabouctou & Canceau, de manière qu’aux Termes de l’arrêt ci-dessus leurs représentans sont propriétaires des ports de Chédabouctou & Canceau, qui sont de bons ports & en bonne pêche, & de celui de Martingot qui en est à deux lieues, qui est encore un bon port pour les gros navires, & une bonne pêche de grand poisson, & à portée du pistolet de ce port, lors de l’établissement il fut construit un fort à l’entrée de celui de Chédabouctou. Ils sont aussi propriétaires des terres situées à six lieues de Chédabouctou, lieu où l’établissement de la pêche sédentaire a été fait.

“Par un autre arrêt du conseil d’état du trois Mars, & par des lettres-patentes données au mois d’Avril, 1684, le Roi a donné une extention de cette première concession; sa Majesté a concédé à Monsieur le Marquis de Cheury, & aux Sieurs ses associés, sous les noms des particuliers dont ils servoient qui leur en ont fait déclaration, toutes les terres & îles qui sont
en

I refer you for the rest to what his Grace writes, and need not repeat that I am by many obligations, and, which is strongest, by my own inclinations, eternally, my dear Lord, yours, &c.

Mr. PRIOR.

BROTHER SIM is here, very well and hearty, he tells me you have rescued Cato *
from

en la côte de l'Acadie depuis la Cap de Campseau jusqu'à la Baie de toutes Isles inclusivement, avec dix lieues de profondeur, & tous droits de chasse & de pêche dans l'étendue de ce pays, sa Majesté leur ayant fait don de toutes ces terres & îles pour en jouir en toute propriété & les tenir en fief, sous la mouvance de la Couronne de France, sans autres charges ni redévance que deux marcs d'argent payable chacun an à la recette du domaine d'Occident.

“ Cette dernière concession est d'une grande étendue de pays, parce que depuis le Cap de Campseau jusqu'à la Baye de toutes Isles inclusivement, il y a vingt lieues, ce qui compose sur dix lieues de profondeur, 200 lieux de pays; dans ce pays il y a beaucoup de bois de construction, de belles mâtues, des lieux propres pour faire des moulins à scier, pour débiter du bordage pour les navires & autres planches. Les terres dans la profondeur à commencer à une lieue & demie, ou deux lieues du bord de la mer, sont propres pour y mettre des grains & du chanvre, il y a de bonnes prairies en plusieurs endroits, & on y peut faire le brays, le gaudron, & la rougine, qui sont aussi bons que ceux que l'on tire du Nord.

“ Il se trouve dans l'étendue de cette deuxième concession, outre les trois ports, qui sont de la première concession, le port de Moquedome, qui est encore un bon port pour de grands navires, où il y a une bonne pêche & fort facile pour le dégras: de manière que dans cette étendue de 20 lieues il y a 4 bons ports: Chédabouctou, Campseau, Martingot, & Moquedome; il y a eu, comme l'on l'a dit, un fort construit à l'entrée de ce premier port & plusieurs habitations, qui ont été détruites par les guerres.”

* Meaning Addison, who though by party a Whig, associated with the principal men on the Tory side; the day on which

from Whigism. I have spoke to Lord Chamberlain concerning Booth, and I believe we may procure any encouragement for him that is reasonable; I beg your pardon for this medley of a letter, and am, once more,

My Lord, yours,

MAT.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Paris, May 13th, 1713, N.S.

I CANNOT omit this occasion of thanking your Lordship, for your very obliging letter of the 19th of April, in your own hand.

I will be sure to speak to Monsieur de Torcy about the *bona immobilia*, and the galley-slaves as your Lordship directs; and also concerning the Minister, they will send, when the Duke d'Aumont shall be recalled. Your thought on that subject is very just, as well as obliging to Monsieur de Torcy, which I am sure he will be sensible of, as well as what has been writ to Utrecht, in favour of the Duke de St. Pierre.

which the account of the peace arrived, he dined with Bolingbroke, and they talked in a friendly manner of party; Addison raised his objections, and Bolingbroke answered them with great complaisance.

If Lord Treasurer approves of Mr. Prior's journey, I hope it will be soon directed; he has been very ill, and is still weak, but let not that be an excuse for delaying his orders, since he will certainly be in a condition to execute them before they can arrive.

I hope the session will be good and short, and the nation left in a temper, by abatements of taxes, to choose their next representatives, honest country Gentlemen, who will intend the true interest of England. I am promised my public audience, as soon as the King comes from Marli, which will be the week before Whitsuntide; then I must enter into a course of ceremony, that will deserve your pity, but I shall bear it the more cheerfully, since it tends to my return home; where I most heartily long to be, and to assure you that I am most truly, yours, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

Both my messengers being now on your side the water, I desire Philips, or Bill, this bearer, or both, may be sent as soon as may be, for I shall want them.

From

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Paris, May 13th, 1713, N.S.

I AM obliged to your Lordship for your friendly letter of the 19th April, and am glad to repeat to you, that the Elector of Bavaria's affair with the Emperor, resting only upon the Marquisate of Burgow, is in a fair way to be rightly accommodated ; people talk here indeed of some new schemes upon that subject, of which I will not entertain you, not having heard of them from Marli.

Concerning the explanation of the four towns upon the coast of Tuscany, as to the time of their being possessed by the Emperor ; I refer your Lordship to what I have already writ thereupon to the Earl of Dartmouth ; observing only, I hope the situation of that affair is according to what her Majesty desires.

It is with very great satisfaction, my Lord, that I find her Majesty thinks, that my obtaining the declaratory act from this Court, in relation to the species, was for her service ; it is certain that possibility, or appearance even of any future difficulty, which the Lords

Plenipotentiaries were apprehensive might arise to us, upon the Dutch declining the tarif of 1664, is now entirely obviated and removed; the Ministers of this Court having declared to me, that the King understands we are as much entitled to the benefit of the article of commerce, as if the Dutch accepted the tarif just now mentioned; and indeed we never acted upon any other principle. I am less pleased to look back upon what may have occasioned these doubts (which the Lords Plenipotentiaries mentioned to you in theirs of the 14th of April, of which they sent me an abstract) than to tell you, that, by what has been sent to Utrecht, those doubts are at an end, beyond any possibility of farther mistake.

I wish the commissioners, who are farther to settle the points of commerce, may meet without loss of time, the rather because these people seem, at present, in a disposition to adjust matters amicably with us.

My Lord Lexington informs me, that Mr. Gilligan continues; I can only repeat what Mr. Prior, as well as myself have writ, that we shall be ready to give him all imaginable assistance here, towards concluding the affair with the French Guinea Company; and I
hope

hope you Lordship's plenary instructions will not fail to meet him here, for I believe that business cannot be finished in Spain.

I have nothing to add, but to assure your Lordship, that I am, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Paris, May 22d, 1713, N.S.

I ONLY write this word to your Lordship to refer you to what I have writ to the Earl of Dartmouth; I have sent him a third act of session, executed by the Elector of Bavaria, which I hope will be found sufficient to set that affair right; you will likewise see by the same letter, that I think this Court, by their manner of acting, in regard to the orders they are to send to America, have a particular eye towards her Majesty's declaring herself concerning the *bona immobilia*. I told Monsieur de Torcy what you writ, that the subjects of France might expect from the Queen the treatment they desire; her Majesty not doubting, but that the King will, on his part, show that indulgence which she desires

to the Protestants in the Galleys; Monsieur de Torcy tells me, that the Duke d'Aumont has orders to give her Majesty a satisfactory account of this affair; which I suppose will render the other part of it (that of the *bona immobilia*) easy. I am, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

P.S. I have received a letter from the Duke Schomberg, in relation to his estate in this kingdom; he says, your Lordship and Lord Treasurer have laid his pretensions before the Queen; I only wait her Majesty's orders, to enable me to apply to the ministry here on that subject.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, May 29th, 1713.

I AM to acknowledge the honour of your Grace's letters of the 9th, 13th, and 22d of this month, N.S.

As to what is contained in the first of these, I need say nothing to your Grace, since that whole matter seems now to be over, and, I hope, to common satisfaction.

Your

Your Grace had reason to think the disputes, between his Imperial Majesty and the Elector of Bavaria, in a fair way to be rightly accommodated, since the only difference turned upon the marquisate of Burgau ; but it seems some treasures, which lay concealed in Germany, during the late war, are now discovered, and the Emperor, who was able to do little or nothing, when supported by the Queen and by the States, is now in a condition to stand on his own legs, and, without our assistance, to make head against France and Spain. A little time will show how he will maintain what he has undertaken. For my own part, I cannot help believing, that he intends rather to shift the scene of treating, than to break off all negotiation. About this we shall give ourselves no other concern, than that the Protestant interest in the empire is not likely to be so well taken care of, and provided for in any other place, as it would have been at Utrecht, where the Queen's Ministers, and those of the States, would have been more watchful, and more vigorous in this cause, than I fear the Protestant powers of the empire will themselves be.

I have already suggested this to my Lord Ambassadors at Utrecht, and desired they would, in concert with the Dutch Ministers, consider whether any thing, and what, may properly be done, to prevent an ill consequence of this kind.

The declaratory act, which your Grace obtained, concerning the species excepted in the ninth article of the treaty of commerce, was not only for the Queen's service, but I will be bold enough to affirm, that unless it had been obtained, the treaty of commerce had better never have been made; and whoever hears, what I do every day, both in Parliament and out of Parliament, from people of all ranks, and of all parties, will soon be of the same opinion. No time will, I hope, be lost in bringing the Commissioners appointed to settle the undecided articles, to meet. But the first necessary step is taking off prohibitions, and lowering of duties on our part, and until the bill for this purpose has passed the two Houses, and the sense of the Parliament is known on the conditional bargain, which her Majesty has made, I doubt these Commissioners would assemble to very little purpose.

I suppose

I suppose Lord Dartmouth has not failed to inform your Grace, that he has writ already, by the Queen's order, to Mr. Nicholson, who takes possession of Newfoundland, and commands both there and in Nova Scotia; that her Majesty's intention is, to allow the subjects of France the liberty of selling their immovable estates; that he will soon receive a positive order to this purpose; and that, in the mean time, he is therefore to do nothing, which may interfere with this design of her Majesty, or hinder the effect of it. We suppose the Court of France will think they have reason to be satisfied with this step for the present, since your Grace, I am sure, knows, though the Duke d'Aumont will not allow it to be so, that this indulgence on her Majesty's part was only promised, in consideration of that indulgence, which his Most Christian Majesty should show to the Protestants in the galleys, and since hitherto we know of nothing done towards the relief of these poor people, except that the French Minister has acquainted me that 188 persons have been released from the chain, whereof fifty, having abjured the Protestant religion, are permitted to continue

tinue in France. I suppose this is not the satisfactory account, which Monsieur de Torcy told your Grace the Duke d'Aumont had orders to give her Majesty ; indeed, my Lord, something better than this ought to be expected, and I hope to hear farther from your Grace, as well as from the Duke d'Aumont, upon this head. I forgot to say above, that the same directions will be given about St. Christopher's, as have been, or shall be given about the Northern Colonies in America. And I must not omit to acquaint your Grace, that the pretensions of the Duke of Schomberg were laid before the Queen, according to what he writes to your Grace : her Majesty's intention is to promote the success of them ; and she commanded me to say to your Grace, that she hoped you would do what is in your power to serve the Duke.

I am now to speak to your Grace on a subject which grows every day upon us, and exacts a great part of our attention—I mean the state of affairs in the North, concerning which, as they pass through my hands, her Majesty has thought fit particularly to command me, that I should write at large to your Grace, giving you an ac-

count of the steps which have been taken, and of such as she judges it proper for your Grace to take, during your stay in France. The Queen, my Lord, has received an account from Mr. Jackson, her Resident at Stockholm, and likewise from the Count de Gyllenburg*, to whom the senate of Sweden have lately sent an express upon the subject, that this kingdom is reduced to the last extremities ; oppressed by taxes, starved by the decay of trade, and dispeopled, as well by the frequent draughts of recruits, as by the pestilence ; that they are unable any longer to support the few places which they still possess in Germany ; that they can possibly furnish but 8000 men, for the defence of the duchy of Finland ; that the utmost they shall be able to do, will be to fit out a squadron of ships, in order to prevent any invasion of Schonen, and to disturb the maritime enterprizes of their enemies ; at the same time her Majesty considers that Count Steinbock's army has surrendered prisoners of war ; that in all probability the

* Swedish Resident; in the year 1716, he was arrested, and his papers seized, which discovered the intentions of Charles XII to invade Great Britain.

Northern allies are going to besiege, and it is to be expected will take Wismar and Stralsund, and any other port which the Swedes may hold on this side of the Baltic; that the Czar is actually entering with 30,000 men into Finland; that the King of Sweden has little or nothing to expect from the Porte, though, by an unaccountable fatality, he seems to have neglected, for some years, all reasonable measures, which might have been taken for his service, on this side of the world, and to have fixed his sole expectation in the Turks, who, after the treatment they had given him, made him some amends at Adrianople when they heard of the news, magnified very much by the Swedes, of Count Steinbock's victory *, and who will, upon the same principle of levity, at best, neglect him, when they shall hear of the late affair in Holstein.

The effect of these and other considerations on her Majesty's mind, I need not mention to your Grace; it were to be wished

* Near Gadesbush, where the Danish troops, and some Saxon cavalry, received almost a total defeat: the Turks, upon this, declared war against the Czar. But, soon afterwards, the Swede had lost Holstein, and Pomerania was threatened.

they

they had the same on the States-General, but hitherto, whether from natural phlegm, or from a worse reason, the Ministers of Holland have not appeared to be affected with the impending ruin of Sweden, and the consequences thereof, in proportion to what they deserve. The Queen, however, could not determine to sit absolutely still, but resolved to attempt something, in hopes by this means, to incite the States more effectually, than by general solicitations, to concur with her, and seriously to advert to this business. I sent, two days ago, to the Swedish Minister, and when he came to my office, I told him, I had the Queen's particular order to let him know, that although the weight of the late war, in which her Majesty was engaged, had made it impossible for her to act in such a manner, as her inclination, and the general interest, would have guided her to do; and although the conduct of the Northern powers, each in their turn, has been such, as to make it, for the most part, doubtful whether the cases, implied by her Majesty's treaties, exist or not; yet the Queen could not acquiesce in seeing Sweden subdued, and the balance of

2 the

the North destroyed; and, on the other hand, she could not suffer the Swedes, by virtue of defensive obligations towards them, to draw her into the support of the war, and to be a partner in all new designs, grafted upon the original quarrel. That, therefore, her Majesty was ready to enter into all reasonable measures, to preserve Sweden from that ruin, which seems to hang over the kingdom; but the Swedes must make the first step, in order to capacitate the Queen, and the rest of their friends, to save them. A step, which if the King of Sweden would have made some time ago, his affairs would not have been reduced to the miserable circumstances they are now in; in short, that the Queen expected they should declare themselves ready and willing to treat, that they should make this offer either directly, or through her Majesty, to their enemies, and that they should name Hamburgh, Bremen, Lubeck, or some one or two other commodious places, to open a Congress at. That this step being made by Sweden, the Northern Allies could not refuse, and her Majesty would declare she expected they should not, to begin a treaty, since they have
always

always pretended to be ready to enter into negociation, and have thrown the blame of not doing it upon the King of Sweden.

I endeavoured, in the best manner I was able, to show this Minister, how irremediable their misfortunes were, unless they fell into the measures which those powers prescribed, from whom only they could expect assistance; I urged to him, the little prospect there was of bringing the States-General, on any other foot, to concern themselves for Sweden. I gave him to understand, that he might be assured, France, from whom, as guarantee of the treaty of Westphalia, and a natural friend and ally of Sweden's, they expected much, would be of the same opinion. I showed him, on the other hand, what they had to hope for, if once a treaty was begun; and insinuated to him, that the Queen in that case, would be of opinion, as I suppose the rest of their common friends would be also, to begin by agreeing a suspension of arms, leaving things on all sides in their present posture, till, by a treaty of peace, they should be finally adjusted. After these several communications, in the reasonableness of which, Gyllenberg very thankfully and decently acquiesced,

quiesced, I observed to him how necessary it was, that the Swedish Ministers who shall be appointed to treat, should be furnished with absolute powers, unclogged with those preliminary conditions, contained in the powers given to the Count de Vellingh. I convinced him, that such as these would dissolve the Congress as soon as it met, and that the giving of others would draw into no consequence, which the King needed to apprehend, since by private instructions to his ministers, he might direct them to make what use he should think fit of the authority delegated to them. On the whole, he promised me to write, and I hope the answer will be such as the interest of Sweden requires, since not only all that King's Ministers on this side of the world, do sufficiently own the necessity there is of putting, by a treaty, an immediate stop to the torrent of success which runs against them ; but I likewise know, that the Count de Vellingh has sent an express to his master, to ask new full powers of the sort abovementioned, as the only means left to save his kingdom from immediate ruin.

The next person I spoke to, by her Majesty's

jeſty's order, was Monſieur de Roſenkrantz, the Daniſh Envoy, and let him know, that I was commanded by the Queen to repreſent to him, that the ſituation of affairs in the North is ſo much altered, that the deſenſive alliances, which her Majeſty has with Sweden, are ſo hard preſſed upon her, that ſhe is reduced to a neceſſity of taking ſome part in theſe matters, and therefore thinks it the faireſt, and moſt friendly method ſhe can purſue, in time to communicate to them what engagement ſhe lies under; and to concert with them, the proper means of putting an end to the Northern war; that hitherto the Swedes have been, notwithstanding all their miſfortunes, averſe to treating; but, that her Majeſty hopes they are, at preſent, in another time of mind; that in this caſe, ſhe makes no doubt but that the Northern Allies, will be equally ready to ſet a negociation on foot, as they have always pretended to be. I added pretty ſtrong inſinuations, that as the Queen and the States-General cannot, on many accounts, be tame ſpectators of the deſtruction of Sweden; ſo neither can France avoid to enter into ſome concert on this head, as a guarantee of the treaty of Weſtphalia,

provided the Swedes will depart from that stiffness, which they have hitherto shown, and submit to treat. After this I spoke to Monsieur de Rosencrantz likewise, upon the subject of Holstein; the substance of what I said to him was, in short, that while the Swedes continued in Tonninghen, there was a plausible pretence, that the neutrality was not broken by Denmark; but now the Swedes are gone, that pretence is, at the same time, removed; wherefore the Queen would be very sorry, that her nephew, who professes always so great a regard for her, should, by keeping a forcible possession of the Ducal territories, reduce her Majesty to the dilemma, either of forfeiting her honour by not keeping up to her engagements, or of opposing him. In return to all this, the Danish Minister promised to make a faithful report to his master; assured before-hand that the King would be ready to enter into a treaty, earnestly begged, that the Queen would guide matters in such a manner as to annex to Denmark, the Ducal Holstein and Sleswick; that to facilitate this, she would connive at the King's continuing the possession he now has; he made me understand, that if such hopes were
privately

privately insinuated, the King would not only treat, but conclude too, in such manner as the Queen should direct, without being much concerned what event the negotiations of his allies had : your Grace will easily judge that I could give him no encouragement of this sort ; but on the contrary, I desired him to depend on what I had before told him, as the Queen's ultimate resolution, by complying with which, his master had more to expect, than he could have any other way.

Since my speaking to his Minister, I have likewise, according to the Queen's command, spoke pretty nearly to the same purpose to the Baron de Schack, the Czar's Envoy, and to Monsieur d'Elorme, the resident of King Augustus ; to the former I softened my style as much as I could, without altering the sense of what I was to impart to him ; because as we have less pretence to press the Czar, than we have to press his two allies, so has he much less to apprehend from us, than they : both these Ministers promised to make report of what I had communicated to them ; but the Muscovite seemed, by the manner in which he expressed himself, not to promise much forwardness in his master to treat, much

easiness when he did treat, or any inclination to stop the progress of his arms, till he had obtained from Sweden, the cession of all those Provinces which lie round the Gulph of Finland; most of which were, I believe by Charles Gustavus, taken from one of the Czar's predecessors.

The same accounts, as I have now the honour to transmit to your Grace, I have given to the Queen's Ambassadors at Utrecht; and their Excellencies are instructed to endeavour, by all possible means, to bring the States up to concur in these measures with her Majesty, in which case, the Queen may venture to advance farther in this cause, and without which, it will be a question of great nicety on many accounts, how the Queen ought in prudence to proceed, in respect to this northern quarrel.

I have said enough to the Duke d'Aumont on this head of business, to draw some use out of him; and by the things which he has let drop, at my desire, to the Ministers of Denmark, of Saxony, and of Muscovy, concerning his master's regard for, and alliances with the Crown of Sweden; and concerning the obligations, which lay upon him, as a guarantee
of

of the treaty of Westphalia ; I believe these Ministers will have conceived some farther apprehension, which they may communicate to their Courts, and thereby dispose them the more readily to accept the offer, which we propose Sweden should make of treating.

The Queen, my Lord, has had two suspicions, concerning the intentions of France, neither of which want probability; though, at the first view, they have been repugnant to each other; her Majesty has sometimes inclined to think, that, whilst the war with the Emperor and Empire continues, France might be willing rather to protract than to assist in ending the disputes of the Northern Princes; and she has had reason to imagine, from some passages which have happened, that the French Ministers are labouring to get the mediation of this treaty, whenever it shall be set on foot, into their hands. I mention these particulars merely as hints to your Grace. What are the real intentions of France, you will much sooner discover, and it is from you that we must expect the information. In the mean time, her Majesty thinks your Grace would do well to acquaint the French Ministers in general, with her sen-

timents concerning the affairs of the North, and with the steps she has taken, in order to bring things there to some terms of treaty, on which the preservation of Sweden depends. Thus far the offices of France must be of use, and cannot possibly be of prejudice. It were therefore to be wished, that the French Ministers would speak (as I suppose your Grace will think fit to do) to Monsieur Cronstroom, to the same effect as I spoke to the Count Gyllenberg; in order to let the Swedes perceive, that the setting a negociation on foot, is a step, which all their friends judge necessary, and concur in expecting from them. It will likewise render the Northern Allies more tractable, and dispose them to think more seriously of peace, if the French Ministers make the proper insinuations of their master's engagements to assist Sweden, and if they give ground to apprehend, that he intends to perform them. If a treaty is entered upon, it will then be more difficult to conduct ourselves between the opposite interests, and to determine what part it may be reasonable to let France have in the negociation; on this we shall have time to turn our thoughts. In the mean while,

while, I shall only observe to your Grace, that the demands of the Czar are likely to be, of all others, the most exorbitant, such as will go the hardest down with Sweden, and such as will perhaps chiefly affect the commerce of the Baltick. Now France is the power, which can best be played off to oppose the Muscovite, and reduce him within terms that can be safely granted: Britain drives, as your Grace knows, a trade of great consequence to Muscovy, and our merchants are, upon the least appearance of dispute, in the utmost consternation, not only for fear of losing that beneficial commerce, but for seizure, and other instances of ill treatment. Holland is always on the watch to make advantage of any breach between us and the Czar, and this mercantile view is perhaps the chief inducement, which the States have, to effect a backwardness in taking measures themselves about Northern affairs, and to leave, as much as they can, the first post and the labouring oar to the Queen.

I have now given your Grace, pursuant to my orders, the best account I am able of her Majesty's views, with respect to the North, which is a sufficient instruction to

your Grace, who will know, much better than I can pretend to, how to promote them at the Court where you are.

Before I conclude this letter, I must mention another matter to your Grace, which the people interested think necessary, and which I suppose can meet with no objection in France.

In Monsieur de Pontchartrain's letter to the Marquis de Vaudrueil, the latter is directed to yield the forts and settlements belonging to the Hudson's Bay Company; this order, my Lord, the merchants are afraid will not answer their ends, they are dispatching two ships directly to the Bay, which being at a considerable distance from Quebec, where the Marquis de Vaudrueil resides, the French who are in possession of the forts on the Bay, may either be ignorant or pretend ignorance of his Most Christian Majesty's orders, may refuse to evacuate these places, and the season may by consequence be lost, which your Grace knows continues in these Northern Seas but a very few months; the merchants therefore desire, and her Majesty would have your Grace endeavour to obtain, either direct orders to the commanders

commanders in these places, or authentic duplicates of the orders sent to the Marquis de Vaudrueil, which may be put into the hands of the officer appointed to go to the Bay of Hudson, and to take possession of the places which the French are to evacuate.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, May 29th, 1713.

I CANNOT, my Lord, forbear taking this opportunity, by a private letter, to give your Grace some idea of the present state of our domestic affairs. If you have better accounts from other hands, you will be good enough to forgive my impertinence.

The laying of the treaties before the Houses of Parliament, has undeceived so many people, who had been imposed upon, and induced to believe the grossest absurdities, that the opposite party seem to hope for no success, either within or without the Parliament-walls, by attacking the terms of peace, or measures of the negociation; but
they

they endeavour to raise a clamour against any commerce with France, as destructive to the manufactures of Britain, and to procure from the weavers, clothiers, and others, petitions of this sort. Multitudes of papers are called for by the House of Lords, several days have been spent in very unnecessary reading, others will be as idly consumed, and I am much out in my judgment, if the aim of the Whig managers be not so to perplex the cause, and to retard the progress of the bill expected from the House of Commons, so as to hinder the ninth article in the treaty of commerce from being made effectual this year.

The benefit they expect from hence, is to be able to clamour at elections, and to leave it a moot point, whether the bargain made by the Queen be good or not: this measure we must break, and I hope we shall not want strength to do it. Though the Scotch, both Lords and Commoners are in a high mutiny, on account of losing the proportion of the malt duty, which they desired might have been lessened in their favour, and which certainly ought to have been granted them, we are working up hill in this case,
as

as we did in that of the peerage, and I think the ferment runs higher.

Your Grace will wonder, when I tell you that they intend to move in our House on Monday, to dissolve the union. You may be sure, that all those whose spirits are naturally turbulent and restless, all those who have languished under expectation, and all those who have any personal resentment, take this occasion to add to the cry, and to pursue their own views, by intermingling them in this cause. In the mean while, we act as if we had nothing to do, but get this Session over any how. No principal of government established and avowed, nobody but my Lord Treasurer, and he cannot be in every place and speak to every man, able to hold out hopes and fears, or give a positive answer to any one question. I represent these things nakedly to your Grace, as I conceive them, and I think I do right, not only because this is a due return to that friendship, which you have been pleased to honour me with, but, because I am sure I do the Queen, and my Lord Treasurer too, the best service, when I endeavour to apprize your Grace of the true state of our government, who are
so

so well able to improve what is good, and to correct what is amiss.

Your entry being over, you will to be sure hasten your return, and I suppose, we may expect to see your Grace at the rising of the Parliament, that is to say, in a month. It almost slipped me to tell your Grace, that the first step which the Scotch made, was, to depute the Duke of Argyle, the Earls of Mar, Lockart, and Cockburne, to the Queen, to tell her of the resolution they were come to. They had no reason to be much pleased with the Queen's reception of them, or with her answer to them. Indeed, this heat, which is blown up by two or three people, will not turn to good account; for instead of hurting the Treasurer, at whom they aim, they have made the dispute national, though in the Lower House, they have to a man joined the Whigs in several divisions, yet have they been baffled by great majorities. A call of the House is ordered below stairs, and above we shall, I believe, ground, on their motion, a bill, to make it high treason, by any overt act, to attempt the dissolution of the union.

If after this we go on to show them all
reasonable

reasonable indulgence, and at the same time to show to them and to all mankind, a firmness of resolution, and a steadiness of conduct, good will have come out of evil, and we shall reap some benefit from this *contre-temps*.

We shall soon see the fate of the bill for making good, on our part, the 9th article of the treaty of commerce, after which, the Commissaries must meet. I believe it will be of use, to insinuate to Monsieur de Torcy, that as, among other things, the factious people here intend, by their opposition to the settlement of any trade with France, to keep the nations estranged from each other, to cultivate the prejudices which have been formerly raised, and which, during two long wars, have taken deep root, and also to prevent the wearing them out, which would be the natural necessary consequence of an open advantageous trade; so we on our part, and the Ministers of France on theirs, ought to counterwork these designs, and to finish what relates to commerce, more in the character of Statesmen, than of merchants. We shall be careful to choose such Commissioners as will answer this end,
and

and we hope those of France, who are, I suppose, the two persons already here, will be instructed accordingly.

I cannot yet say thing more to your Grace, of Prior, nor of the person who is to succeed you. I suppose you will send d'Alegre hither. The Queen has been in excessive pain with the gout, but yesterday she suffered less, we hope the fit is over.

Can you forgive me, my Lord, for troubling you with two such letters at once? Indeed, I put your Grace's goodness to a severe trial.

I am, my Lord, by inclination and by gratitude, with great truth, your Grace's, &c.

De Monsieur de Torcy.

A Marli, 22me Mai, 1713.

L'ABBE Gaultier étoit sûr, Monsieur, d'une bonne reception, & de la joie que j'aurois de le voir, en m'apportant les deux lettres qu'il m'a rendues de votre part. Il n'y a rien, je vous assure, qui puisse me faire plus de plaisir que les marques de la continuation de l'honneur de votre amitié; je
2 n'oublierai

n'oublierai rien pour la conserver, & je vous supplie de croire, que je compte absolument sur les assurances que vous m'en avez données, sâchent parfaitement, Monsieur, quelle est votre constance à l'égard de ceux que vous mettez au nombre de vos amis.

Voilà une profession très véritable & très sérieuse de mes sentimens que je dépose entre vos mains, & si malheureusement il m'est échappé quelque mauvaise plaisanterie, qui devient encore plus mauvaise quand la mer est entre deux, & qu'il faut une explication, je déclare que je déteste tout ce qui a pu paroître contraire à mes véritables pensées, que je le regarde comme l'ouvrage du malin esprit, qui fait souvent parler les femmes contre la vérité, & engage les hommes à répéter leurs discours.

Sérieusement, my Lord, je ne finirois point, si je voulois vous dire à quel point j'ai été mortifié de ce que l'Abbé Gaultier m'a confié, mais je me rapporterai à ce que je lui dirai sur cet article, lorsqu'il retournera auprès de vous. En attendant, foyez, je vous supplie, persuadé, que je croirois tout perdre, si l'amitié que vous m'avez fait l'honneur

neur de me promettre, recevroit quelque altération par ma faute.

Je ne pouvois mieux faire connoître au Roi, de quelle manière vous avez reçu ce que sa Majesté avoit ordonné à Monsieur le Duc d'Aumont de vous dire, qu'en lui lisant l'article même de votre lettre. Vous pouvez compter, my Lord, que ses sentimens pour vous sont tel que vous les méritez de tous ceux qui vous connoissent & personnellement & par vos ouvrages.

Celui de la paix universelle trouve encore des empêchemens de la part de la Cour de Vienne, comme vous en êtes informé par Messieurs vos Plénipotentiaires, mais j'avoue que j'ai peine à croire, que ces difficultés subsistent long-tems, & qu'une puissance, qui n'avoit pu faire la guerre, si elle n'avoit été soutenue par les alliés qu'elle a perdus, soit en état d'agir par ses seules forces, après douze ans que cette guerre a duré.

J'espère donc que les réflexions sages succéderont à ce premier dépit, & rien n'est plus capable de les inspirer que beaucoup de fermeté de la part du Roi, dans les résolutions

tions que sa Majesté a prises, & un concert parfait avec la Reine. Je souhaite qu'elle approuve la proposition que Monsieur le Duc d'Aumont doit lui faire, de mettre l'Electeur de Bavière, comme il est très facile, en possession de la Sardagne ; on ne persuadera certainement la maison d'Autriche qu'en lui faisant voir, que les dommages de la guerre peuvent tomber sur elle aussi-bien que sur les Princes de l'Empire, & si dans la suite on pouvoit lui donner de justes inquiétudes du côté d'Italie, on verroit bientôt un esprit plus pacifique dans ses projets.

Il ne tiendra pas à vous, my Lord, qu'elle ne fasse justice au Duc de St. Pierre, je ne fais plus de quelles expressions me servir pour vous rendre grâces de votre attention à ses intérêts, & des effets qu'elle produit. Si l'Empereur entend la raison sur la paix, je suis persuadé que vous la lui ferez entendre aussi sur les dédommagemens qu'il doit. Je n'ose porter mes très humbles remercîmens envers la grande Reine au nom de qui vous envoyez les ordres à Utrecht, mais si vous croyez, my Lord, que le respect me le permette, je vous supplie de parler pour moi, & certainement vous direz mieux ce que je

penſe, que je le pourrois exprimer moi-même.

J'ai partagé avec Monſieur le Duc de Shrewſbury, la joie de trouver une occaſion de faire voir la bonne-foi de la France, dans l'égard que le Roi a eu, à les repréſentations au ſujet de la déclaration, qu'il a demandée. C'eſt à vous préſentement, my Lord, à nous venger de toutes les injures qu'on vomit contre nous à Raſibonne. En vérité, on trouve avec les Allemands bien des occaſions d'appliquer—*leurs Excellences ſont ivres.*

J'attends avec beaucoup d'impatience la nouvelle du départ du Marquis de Montéleon, & de ſon arrivée à Utrecht; ſ'il ſuivoit ſon goût, je ſuis perſuadé qu'il ne ſortiroit point de Londres, pour paſſer en Hollande; mais ſa préſence y eſt bien néceſſaire, & les affaires ne finiront jamais, ſ'il on laiſſe le ſoin à ſon collègue. Vous éprouvez, my Lord, qu'il y a des points où la Cour d'Eſpagne eſt difficile, jugez préſentement ſi la France la gouvernoit. Je vous aſſure que c'eſt un grand bonheur, que Montéleon ait été choiſi pour la négociation de Londres, & que tout autre que lui, avec les ordres de Madrid, auroit laiſſé

laissé long-tems traîner l'affaire, dont il étoit chargé.

L'Abbé Gaultier m'a parlé de vous pour l'établissement du commerce avec la Flandre Françoise. Outre la disposition que j'ai à louer tout ce qui vient des personnages qu'il m'a nommés, je crois, my Lord, que sans aucune prévention, rien ne fera meilleur pour les deux nations. Mais vous comblez le port de Dunkerque, qui serviroit infiniment à ce commerce, & qui ne devoit vous causer aucune crainte, toutes les fortifications, tant de terre que de mer, étant rasées, & la ville demeurant ville marchande. Voilà tout ce que je vous dirai sur cet article, car il ne faut pas donner à vos Whigs le plaisir de dire que la France veut revenir contre les promesses solennelles qu'elle a faites.

Nos Whigs dont vous me parlez, my Lord, n'aiment plus tant les Hollandois depuis qu'ils ont fait la paix, mais ils assurent que nous ne pouvons faire aucun mal à l'Empereur & à l'Empire, & que nous avons tout à craindre de la puissance du corps Germanique.

Vous payez le plaisir que j'ai à vous écrire, car je ne puis finir une lettre dont

la longue lecture vous ennuyera ; il faut donc supprimer, tout ce que j'aurois encore à vous dire, si je voulois vous exprimer, my Lord, mes sentimens pour vous, fondés sur l'estime la plus parfaite, & vous assurer, &c.

DE TORCY.

A Monsieur de Torcy.

De Whitehall, ce 31^{me} Mai, 1713.

JE me fers de l'occasion que me fournit le courier que je dépêche à Monsieur le Duc de Shrewsbury, pour vous rendre mes très humbles remercîmens de ce que vous voulez bien me continuer l'honneur de votre amitié, & m'en renouveler les assurances, d'une manière si obligeante. Je compte absolument là-dessus. Je connois votre cœur, & je connois le mien. Je suis incapable de faire la moindre faute, par-où je puisse mériter que votre amitié reçoive à mon égard quelque altération, & vous êtes trop juste pour vouloir, sans raison, me priver d'un bien que vous m'avez si généreusement donné, & que j'estime plus que ma vie.

Ne faites donc, Monsieur, je vous en conjure, plus de réflexion sur l'accident dont

l'Abbé

l'Abbé Gaultier vous a parlé, puisque je m'en suis ouvert ; vous devez être persuadé qu'il ne causa aucune mauvaise impression sur mon esprit. Je n'ai pas pu, je vous l'avoue, m'empêcher de rire un peu avec l'Abbé, sur les inconvéniens, où ceux qui s'amusent à faire de fausses confidences, & à jouer le personnage de Ministre mal-à-propos, sont sujets à tomber. Je compte, Monsieur, comme vous, que des réflexions sages succéderont au premier dépit, & que la Cour de Vienne changera bientôt de langage, peut-être n'a-t-elle en vue que de changer de scène, & conclure la paix ailleurs qu'à Utrecht.

Je n'entre pas dans aucune détail sur ce sujet, parce que j'en ai parlé fort au long avec Monsieur le Duc d'Aumont, sur ce qu'il m'avoit communiqué. Vous serez, Monsieur, peut-être surpris d'abord de savoir que les factieux chez nous remuent ciel & terre, pour empêcher que le 9me article du traité de commerce assortisse son effet, mais vous cesserez d'être surpris, quand vous prendrez la peine de considérer, que ces gens sont au désespoir de ce que les préjugés, dont ils avoient rempli l'esprit de notre

L 3

peuple,

peuple, se dissipent. Ils savent que le moyen le plus sûr pour réunir nos deux nations, par des liens d'amitié indissolubles, est de faire revivre un commerce libre & avantageux, ce feroit la ruine du plan, sur lequel ils ont travaillé de tout tems, & depuis vingt-et-cinque ans, avec trop de succès.

Nous nous appliquerons sans cesse à faire échouer tous les desseins de ces mal-intentionnés, & le concert parfait qui est établi, & qu'il faut maintenir entre les deux cours, nous mettra en état de réussir.

J'aurai l'honneur, Monsieur, de vous écrire dans peu, fort amplement sur ce sujet, & sur celui de Dunkerque ; mais à présent que nous sommes au milieu d'une séance de Parlement, les affaires domestiques nous accablent, & ne nous donnent pas tout le tems qu'il feroit nécessaire d'employer à celles du dehors. On ne laisse pas de faire attention à la guerre du Nord, & à la situation de la Suède, & Monsieur de Shrewsbury ne manquera pas de vous entretenir sur ces points.

Ma lettre devient insensiblement trop longue ; je le fais, & pourtant à peine puis-je me résoudre de la finir. Je me dérobe des intrigues des factieux, des débats d'une assemblée

semblée populaire, pour écrire à l'homme du monde que j'estime plus parfaitement; jugez si je n'ai pas raison de faire durer un si doux plaisir le plus long-tems qu'il me soit possible.

To Mr. Prior.

31st May, 1713.

I AM to acknowledge the letters of the 2d, 10th, and 21st instant, N.S.

You know enough of the constitution of your own country, and of the state of our Court, not to be surpris'd if, at this time, in the middle of a session of Parliament, I am neither very punctual nor very particular in my correspondence. You may be sure your recovery, from so dangerous a distemper, is matter of great satisfaction to one, who thinks you as useful as I do to the public, and who hopes to pass hereafter so many agreeable hours in your company.

The substance of all your letters to me is now out of doors, those heads of business having been finished, and, I hope, very successfully, notwithstanding the difficulty, which there was in the nature of some of

them, and the disadvantages, which we lay under in treating all of them. I can yet say nothing to you either of your journey to Piémont, or of the election of the person who is to succeed the Duke of Shrewsbury in France: you know we are always slow in taking our resolutions, as well as in putting them in execution, when they are taken; and the present ferment and hurry of domestic business, contributes to make us more so; for my own part, I am quite worn out with disagreeable labour.

Having received a letter of compliments from Monsieur de Torcy, to which I have made an answer, I give you the trouble of inclosing it to you.

I cannot omit mentioning to you a thing, which I spoke of, in one of my letters to the Duke of Shrewsbury, and which, in my opinion, is of a good deal of consequence, towards confirming that peace and friendship, which the late treaty establishes between the two nations.

The Whigs, who have been beat off from all their other attacks, seem to fix themselves on the treaty of commerce, as their last hold, and endeavour to raise a ferment among

among the people, by scanning, straining, and misrepresenting every article, nay, every syllable in it; and propagating with wonderful industry, that all trade whatever with France is prejudicial to Britain. The French Ministers will easily see, I suppose, and if they do not, they ought to be shown, that this, among other views, is calculated to hinder those prejudices, which our people have been possessed with against France, and which begin now to wear off, from being extinguished; to keep up the strangeness between the two nations, and to preserve such a temper of mind, in our people, as may dispose them, upon every slight occasion, to a dispute with France. Now the most effectual way of preventing this, is certainly an open and advantageous commerce between the two kingdoms. Nothing unites like interest; and when once our people have felt the sweet of carrying on a trade to France, under reasonable regulations, the artifices of Whigism will have the less effect amongst them. As this is true, so it is proper enough to be insinuated to the French Ministers, and, it is to be hoped, will make them more easy in the settlement of such points

points, as remain still to be decided, relating to commerce.

The Duke d'Aumont having spoke to me upon two or three heads, which have not been mentioned by the Duke of Shrewsbury, I send you an account, which I desire you will communicate to his Grace, and the answers I returned to them.

Adieu, Dear Matt; may you, whilst your friends are drudging in the midst of faction, live an easy life with little business, and may you have as much pleasure as you desire or are able to take.

As a temper of mind, in our people, as B.

A Monsieur le Marquis de Montéleon.

De Whitehall, ce 1^{me} Juin, 1713.

COMME votre Excellence est présentement arrivée à Utrecht, je commence à profiter, Monsieur, de la permission qu'elle m'a donnée de lui écrire de tems en tems. Outre l'avantage, que dans mon particulier je retirerai de cette correspondance, nous pourrons, peut-être, par ce moyen, avancer les intérêts réciproques de nos deux Cours, & fortifier cette amitié & cette bonne intelligence, dont nous avons eu l'honneur de jeter les premiers fondemens.

fondemens. Mais l'expédient infallible pour cet effet, & qui ne manqueroit pas de rendre les nœuds de l'union entre la Grande Bretagne & l'Espagne indissolubles, seroit votre présence, Monsieur, dans ce pays.

Je suis tellement persuadé de cette vérité, que je ne puis pas m'empêcher de vous renouveler mes instances, afin que vous preniez toutes les mesures, qu'il vous convient de prendre, pour nous revoir; & je vous assure que je sonne la même chose, tous les jours, dans les oreilles de Don Patricio. Je n'ai pas manqué de faire vos complimens à la Reine, & vous devez compter, Monsieur, que dans toutes les occasions sa Majesté vous donnera les marques les plus réelles de l'estime qu'elle a pour votre personne, & du cas qu'elle fait de votre mérite.

J'espère, Monsieur, que vous ne tarderez pas à signer le traité de paix que nous avons arrêté ici, d'autant plus que je vois, qu'au fonds le Roi Catholique sera fort content de l'article de la religion, celui des Catalans étant dressé à sa satisfaction. Au nom de Dieu, qu'on ne perde point de tems à vous envoyer les ratifications en blanc, selon ce que nous avions projeté.

Je

Je persiste, à l'égard des Allemands, dans mes premiers sentimens. Ils signeront la paix, mais, sages comme ils sont, ils accepteront, plutôt que de signer à Utrecht, peut-être des plus mauvaises conditions.

J'écris par cette poste à Messieurs les Plénipotentiaires de la Reine sur les intérêts de la Princesse des Ursins. Comme l'Empereur diffère son accommodement, & comme, selon les apparences, on va changer le théâtre de la négociation, il seroit à-propos de concerter, sans perte de tems, les mesures que nous prendrons, & d'y faire entrer les Hollandois.

Adieu, mon cher Monsieur, faites-moi la justice de croire que je suis, & que je ferai toute ma vie, avec un attachement très sincère, de votre Excellence, &c.

To the Earl of Orrery.

MY DEAR LORD,

Whitehall, June 9th, 1713.

WHEN Captain Plat arrived with your Lordship's letter of the 5th of this month, N.S. the Queen's indisposition, who had then a severe and painful fit of the gout upon her, hindered me for a few days from receiving her commands ;

commands; since that time her Majesty has been under some difficulty what to determine, because on one hand she thinks it, at this point of time, of the utmost ill consequence to her service, that there should be the least interval, wherein her authority in the Spanish Netherlands may remain unexerted, and on the other hand she is willing to comply with what your Lordship seems so earnestly to press. If the person she intended to send, could have gone immediately, there would have been no hesitation, and care would have been taken that he might have arrived at Brussels, as soon as your Lordship had left the place. However, the Queen has at last commanded me to let your Lordship know, that if you insist on coming over now, she gives way to it, and allows you so to do. We must in this case dispatch somebody or other, who I cannot yet tell you, to enforce the execution of the provisional settlement of commerce, concluded at Utrecht, which will certainly not go down very easily, and to take care of other matters which seem to her Majesty to require a constant uninterrupted application.

In my own particular, I shall have a very

great satisfaction in embracing you here, and in assuring you by word of mouth, how sincerely I am, my dear Lord,

Your faithful, &c.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY DEAR LORD,

Whitehall, June 9th, 1713.

I COMPLAINED in one of my office-letters of the unconscionable hurry of business, which at present takes up all our time, and almost distracts our thoughts, and my complaint was not without reason. From the treaty of commerce, the Whigs take a handle of debate; and they use their utmost efforts, either to find fault with particular passages and parts of it, or if that fails, to establish a maxim that all commerce with France is ruinous to Britain. The field is large, and we have few workmen; your Excellency from hence will easily judge how hard the task must lie upon some of your humble servants.

What you said to Bothmar, was but too well founded, and would have its due impression, was he wise enough to weigh it as he ought,

ought, but I gave him over long ago as incorrigible.

I think, my dear Lord, just as you do, as to Sabine's proceedings, and Lord Orrery's demanding singly for the Queen's troops. As to the former, it is in the Duke of Ormond's hands, to whom I have earnestly recommended the care of it; as to the latter point, I have said nothing to my Lord Orrery, because I look on him to be determined to come over hither immediately, although I think, and have told him, that the service at this time will suffer, if there be any the least interruption of the exercise of the Queen's authority in the Netherlands.

The biggest ships of Sir J. Jennings's squadron are called home, but he continues in the Mediterranean with a squadron sufficient for the service of Sicily, and for that of transporting the troops from Catalonia; we look upon it to be half over.

I cannot enough thank your Lordship for your goodness to my brother, whom I will disown for such, if he does not always behave himself as the obligations, you have been pleased to lay on him, deserve at his hands.

I am, &c.

A Monsieur

A Monsieur le Marquis de Montéleon.

De Whitehall, ce 9me Juin, 1713.

JE répons, Monsieur, en même-tems à votre lettre du 7me N.S. & à celle que le Comte de Lecheraine * m'a remise de votre part.

La nouvelle que votre Excellence m'annonce, que les ratifications viendront dans les termes que nous l'avions projeté, me console ; sans cela, je vous avoue, que j'aurois été au désespoir des longueurs de votre collègue. Enseignez au Duc d'Osune, qu'en politique, comme en amour, il ne faut pas perdre les occasions favorables, ni s'exposer aux événemens qui peuvent arriver.

Je suis très fâché de voir dans la lettre de la Princesse des Ursins quelques traits d'aigreur ; ce qui se trouve dans le traité est conforme, si je ne me trompe, aux termes dans lesquels la première proposition, en faveur de cette Princesse, a été faite de la part de France. Mais, Monsieur, vous savez quelles sont les intentions de la Reine, & quelles sont les mesures qu'elle est toute prête à prendre.

* Envoy from the Elector Palatine.

Pardonnez

Pardonnez à la hâte dans laquelle je vous écris, & croyez que je suis, & que je ferai toute ma vie, avec une estime très parfaite, Monsieur, de votre Excellence, &c.

J'avois oublié de remercier votre Excellence de la lettre qu'elle a bien voulu prendre la peine de m'écrire du 16^{me} de ce mois.

Au nom de Dieu, finissez le traité, & revenez ici. Si votre cour pouvoit voir la suite d'une telle résolution, comme nous le voyons, elle ne balanceroit pas un moment à vous envoyer à Londres d'abord que vous aviez fini à Utrecht.

A Monsieur le Comte de Montigo.

De Whitehall, ce 19^{me} Juin, 1713.

J'AI aimé bien de fois, mon très cher & très aimable Comte, dans ma vie, mais je ne me souviens pas d'avoir jamais senti, en quittant une maîtresse, des douleurs si vives que celles qui m'ont pénétrés le cœur en me séparant de vous, ni d'avoir reçu aucun billet-doux qui m'ait fait un plaisir égal à celui que m'a causé votre lettre. Les officiers de

la Reine, que vous avez trouvé dans nos garnisons, n'ont fait que leur devoir en vous rendant les honneurs qui dépendoient d'eux. S'ils y avoient manqué, ils se feroient assurément attiré la colère de tout ce qu'il y a chez nous de galans hommes & de jolies femmes.

Madame Marschalch a été dans ce pays il y a un an & demi. Nous avons été touchés de sa beauté, & nous serons ravis de la revoir. Pour répondre aux bonnes nouvelles que vous m'annoncez, je vous dirai, que Madame de Richmond, & Madame de Newbury vous font leurs complimens, & vous prient de ne pas les oublier; Madame de Berkley compte bien que vous vous souviendrez d'elle.

Je vous envoie ci-joint le chiffre que je vous ai promis; aimez-moi toujours, & comptez que j'ai pour vous un cœur rempli de tendresse & d'estime. Adieu, mon cher ami, les larmes me viennent aux yeux en finissant ma lettre: encore un coup, adieu. Je suis, & je ferai toute ma vie, du fond de mon ame, votre très fidelle, &c.

Wyndham, le vieux foldat, et le Duc,
vous

vous assurent de toute leur estime, & d'un souvenir éternel, il n'y a pas au monde un endroit où on vous regrette plus qu'à Cracco Hall.

Je suis obligé de différer à vous envoyer le chiffre jusqu'à la semaine prochaine.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, June 20th, 1713.

THOUGH I do not answer the public dispatch, which came to my hands this morning, you will allow me, by this messenger, to return your Excellency my humble thanks for the favour of your private letter of the 28th, N.S.

I can never sufficiently acknowledge the goodness which you are pleased to show my brother, and particularly that instance of it, the telling him plainly what he ought to do. I entreat your Excellency to go on with this charity, for such it is to a young fellow of his inexperience, and to check him where you find him faulty. I would gladly have him good for something; and if he neglects

the present opportunity of making himself so, I shall despair of him.

I have spoke to the Duke of Ormond very freely concerning the complaints which come from Flanders, I will do so again, and I hope he will give effectual orders for redressing grievances which make so much noise. I am really not able to answer what you ask concerning the embassy of France, but I may perhaps be so in a short time, in the mean while, I take the hints you give me, and will improve them as becomes your servant and friend.

The Marquis de Montéleon does me justice in what he represents to your Excellency of the sentiments I have for you; I value myself on my frankness, and no consideration on earth shall ever make me depart from it.

We got luckily over the difficulty about the Scotch *, and they are all returned again

* This arose upon the Malt-bill, laying a duty of 6d. per bushel upon that article, whether used in England or Scotland, which was carried in the Committee by a majority of one only; but upon the question for the engrossment of the bill, the numbers were 139 and 104, and for the passing of the bill, 197 and 52.

to their colours ; but we have a late defection, of more danger.—When the Bill for making effectual the 8th and 9th articles † of the treaty of commerce with France was committed in the House of Commons, Sir Thomas Hanmer and some of our friends below stairs, Lord Anglesea and some of our friends above stairs, grew squeamish, and began to think, or to say they thought, that this Bill ought to be put off till next session, because the elections might be prejudiced by passing an act, concerning which the opinions of mankind were divided. The Court were willing to have dropped the Bill, rather than to have made a breach among our friends ; but the body of the Tories absolutely refused to part with it. On Thursday, the debate lasted till eleven at night, when the Bill was lost, by 194 against 185 ‡. The reason of this majority

† The eighth article related to the treatment of the subjects of each Crown in the other's territories, in the same manner as the then most favoured nation. The ninth article related to a reduction of the duties payable in Great Britain upon French commodities, which were to be lowered to what other nations pay for the like goods : it stated the tariff of 1664, and other particulars, mentioned in the foregoing letters.

‡ But to soften the rejection of this Bill, Sir Thomas Hanmer moved for an Address—To thank her Majesty for the peace, which provided for the security of the nation. It then

jority was, that there had been, during two or three days' uncertainty, an opinion spread, that Lord Treasurer gave up the point. If this was intended to hurt the Court, it was no very wise nor grateful part in some people : it will have the contrary effect ; for every day the prejudices cease, and the nation becomes sensible of their true interest. I believe, and I hope, these events will put the Queen upon more vigorous measures than our government has been used to. In the mean time, the Dutch will, at least for some months, reap the fruits of our folly*.

I am ever, &c.

Mr. Ayerst may depend on my constant solicitation.

A Monsieur le Duc de St. Pierre.

De Whitehall, ce 22me Juin, 1713.

J'AI eu l'honneur de recevoir votre lettre, Monsieur, du 27me de ce mois, N.S. par

stated, that the good foundation her Majesty had laid for the interest of trade, by what had been done in the treaty of navigation and commerce, gave hopes of seeing it farther improved under Commissaries to be appointed, &c.

* By retaining those privileges in their commerce with France, which had been granted to them, and not to Great Britain.

les

les mains du Comte de Lecheraine, aussi-bien que celle du mois de Janvier, avec les pièces qui étoient jointes. Je vous avoue, que je n'ai jamais vu de droit mieux établi que le vôtre, ni de traitement plus dût que celui que vous essuyez. Voilà mon sentiment, mais j'ose ajouter, ce qui est de toute autre importance, c'est le sentiment de la Reine. J'ai écrit à Messieurs les Plénipotentiaires de la Grande Bretagne, à plusieurs reprises, dans ce style, & je ne conçois pas qu'il soit possible de dresser des ordres plus positifs, & plus précis, que ceux qu'ils ont eu sur votre sujet.

Je crois avoir marqué à Monsieur de Torcy, & je vous le répète, Monsieur, que vous n'avez qu'à mettre par écrit l'instruction, que vous souhaitez qu'on envoie à nos Ministres, & je puis répondre que la Reine donnera ses ordres conformément.

En attendant, sa Majesté m'a commandé d'écrire, par le courier qui partira demain, sur le plan de votre dernière lettre.

Je me pique, Monsieur, d'être un homme franc, mes ennemis vous diront peut-être que je le suis trop, ce qu'il y a de sûr, c'est que je ne tromperai personne, & que si je le

voudrois faire, ce ne feroit pas par Monsieur le Duc de St. Pierre, par le beau-frère de Monsieur de Torcy, que je débuterois. En un mot, comptez, Monsieur, qu'il n'y a rien qui dépend de moi que je ne fait, & que je ne sois prêt à faire, pour votre service. Je voudrois de tout mon cœur pouvoir & donner, & exécuter les instructions, mais dans la situation où je me trouve, je ne puis faire que la première de ces deux choses.

Les conférences entre les Ministres Impériaux & ceux de France à Utrecht sont rompues, Dieu fait en quel endroit elles se renoueront ! mais par tout où les Ministres de la Reine se trouveront, vous aurez des agens zélés, & des serviteurs fidèles.

Je suis, Monsieur, &c.

To Mr. Pulteney.

SIR,

Whitehall, June 24th, 1713.

I WOULD not omit writing a few words to you by this post, in answer to your private letter, though I cannot till the next, take

take notice of your other dispatches, or speak to you of public business.

I did indeed do you that justice, which I find has been reported to you. There is nothing so much at my heart, as the good of the service, and wherever I meet with zeal to carry that on, independantly of our party disputes here at home, my applause shall follow that character. We are taking measures at the close of this Session, to enable the Queen to pay that heavy debt which loads her civil list, and starves her servants. I hope we shall succeed, for your sake, for my own, for every one's, but above all, for the Queen's honour and ease.

I doubt Mr. Rosencrantz flatters his own court, but I shall write to him, by the Queen's order, to-morrow, in a style to undeceive them. On Friday, I will send you the copy of my letter. I am, &c.

A Madame la Princesse des Ursins.

MADAME,

De Whitehall, ce 25me, Juin, 1713, V.S.

JE ne saurai m'empêcher de me joindre à Monsieur le Duc d'Osuna, & à Monsieur le Marquis

Marquis de Montéleon, en recommandant le Comte de Lecheraine à la protection de votre Altesse. Après avoir reçu, dans la personne de mon parent, des marques si éclatantes de votre générosité, je devrois songer de ce qu'en si peu de tems, j'y ai recours pour la seconde fois. Mais en vérité, Madame, j'aurois encore plus de honte, si je refusois de rendre témoignage du mérite distingué de celui, qui aura l'honneur de vous rendre cette lettre.

Il y a plusieurs années que je connois Monsieur le Comte de Lecheraine. Il a servi dans nos armées pendant toute la guerre, il est un des plus anciens Généraux-Majors*, & je puis assurer votre Altesse, que lorsqu'il s'agissoit des plus grands desseins, que nous avons exécutés ou en Allemagne ou ailleurs, il a toujours été dans le secret, & s'est toujours dignement acquitté du rôle qui lui a été confié. En faisant l'éloge de mon ami, Madame, je ne conte que des simples faits, sans la moindre exagération; je le finirai en assurant votre Altesse, que s'il a le bonheur, sous ses favorables auspices, d'entrer au service de sa Majesté Catholique, il ré-

* In the former Auxiliaries.

pondra au caractère que je lui donne, d'un bon homme de guerre & de cabinet.

Les avis, que votre Altesse reçoit en droiture d'Utrecht, l'informent si précisément, de tout ce que s'y passe, qu'il seroit superflu de l'entretenir sur ce sujet: Messieurs les Plénipotentiaires de la Reine, ont été instruits de la manière que le Marquis de Montéleon l'a souhaité, & je me flatte que ce Ministre se trouve bien secondé par leurs offices, puisqu'il paroît en être content.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, avec un attachement très respectueux, Madame, &c.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Paris, June 23d, 1713, N.S.

UPON the contents of your Lordship's letter of the 29th May, O.S. I have discoursed with the Ministers here.

As to the affair of the galley-slaves, Monsieur de Torcy does still adhere to what I understand from your Lordship, to have been promised by this King; that all those who were confined purely upon the account
of

of religion, should be set at liberty; this he alledges, is actually performed, and refers you to the Duke d'Aumont to confirm the same account; so that as to those, who may be still remaining, your Lordship will have the best information in England, and upon a list of their names, and their cases, as you will represent the thing to the Duke d'Aumont, I shall be ready to facilitate their release by my best offices employed here.

Concerning the letters which this Court sends to the French governors of the forts in Hudson's Bay, which your Lordship desires may be transmitted to you, in order to their being sent thither more immediately, by the two ships which we dispatch thither, Mr. Prior has spoke to Monsieur Pontchartrain, who promises that your Lordship shall have such letters; but as you say, that Mr. Nicholson will have her Majesty's orders to give the French subjects the liberty of selling their immoveable estates: Monsieur Pontchartrain desires that authentic copies of such orders may be either sent hither, or delivered to the Duke d'Aumont; their Hudson's Bay Company have some moveable effects upon the place, for which they are now sending,

sending, and they hope they shall find no opposition there, on our part, in their so doing.

I don't doubt but that your Lordship has seen the memorial, presented to the King of Spain by the French Affiento Company, which I transmitted some time since to my Lord Dartmouth's office ; I can say no more upon that subject, than that Lord Lexington has since writ to Mr. Prior and myself, that Mr. Gilligan is better in health, and may be soon expected here ; let me remind you, that I hope he will find such instructions from your side, as may enable him to terminate what remains unfinished of that affair, with the persons concerned here.

I have presented a memorial in favour of the Duke of Schomberg's pretensions to his estate in France ; if there are any papers that he desires to be particularly given in to this Court, it were well they were transmitted to some person here, whom he would employ to solicit that affair, he is always sure of my best offices.

I have spoke to Mr. Cronstrom, and led him into the explication of her Majesty's intention in relation to the North : he takes it
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for granted, that the King of Sweden would be inclined to treat, and that Comte Vellingh has, or would have powers unlimited, and sufficient to begin a negociation; that he would write to the King, and would engage that Comte Vellingh, should likewise do so to the same purpose; that in the mean time, as nothing can stop the immediate ruin of Sweden but a cessation, he hopes the Queen will be pleased to speak her intentions thereupon, very firmly to the Allies: he seems very much of opinion, that her Majesty's good offices herein can only prove effectual by her sending a squadron into the Baltic; I have discoursed with Monsieur de Torcy upon the same subject; he seems likewise to apprehend the immediate danger that threatens Sweden; but I cannot find by any thing he said, that this Court is disposed to enter solely into measures to prevent it; I did not think fit to enquire particularly, how far his Most Christian Majesty would engage jointly with the Queen, thinking it would look too like making an offer, in which I am not impowered; my own private opinion persuades, that it is not her Majesty's design to engage far in this affair, otherwise than in
conjunction

conjunction with Holland; the intervention of these three great powers, may indeed prove effectual in this behalf, without the apprehension of a new war, into which, I presume, her Majesty will be very cautious how she enters, having so lately got out of an old one. I am, my Lord, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Paris, June 23d, 1713, N.S.

I THOUGHT it so long since I had the satisfaction of hearing from you, that my pen was in my hand, to complain of your silence, that very moment I received your Lordship's letter of the 29th May, in your own hand.

I am sorry the Scotch have had new cause of complaint, and that they so universally resent it; I find many at this court would not be sorry the union were dissolved. The House of Hanover must certainly disapprove what the Whigs have done upon this occasion, and I think some advantageous use might be drawn from it, if Lord Treasurer has any body at that court, able to represent
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with spirit, the behaviour of each party in relation to this affair, so important to their success.

It is supposed the trenches are opened before Landau, and that that place must be taken; however, this Court is so very weary of the charge of a war, that they are truly sorry the Emperor gave them no opportunity, before his Minister left Utrecht, to agree those trifling difficulties which remain between them, and repent they did not oblige the Elector of Bavaria to accept those propositions Mr. Kirkner * last made, by the means of Lord Strafford; but now it is become a point of honour, and the chief of this campaign's expence being furnished, they will see the end of it, presuming it will be advantageous to them.

Monfieur d'Alegre is designed to succeed the Duke d'Aumont; you know his character, so I shall only add, that his daughter having lately married Monsieur Desmarais' son, you may conclude he is well with that Minister, and he is likewise so with Monsieur de Torcy; he is now in the army, and cannot remove while that is in the field; some

* One of the Austrian Plenipotentiaries.

think,

think, that, being an ancient Lieutenant-general, and so well esteemed, that he stands among the fairest to be Marechal of France, when a promotion shall be made; he will be unwilling to quit the army as long as the war lasts. In the mean time, Abbé Gaultier talks of returning soon to England.

I must remind your Lordship, that some months since, I sent you a copy of the two Azzurinis' * depositions, that you might see the difference of what the son said here and in Holland, and receive your directions, if you had any to give, on that subject.

I do not hear who is to be my successor; if you intend that Mr. Prior should remain, it is absolutely necessary for her Majesty's honour, that he should have both money, and notice to put himself in that equipage that the Minister of every Prince is in. For my part, I am in haste to be in England; but it will be impossible I can be there so soon as your Lordship mentions.

I am, my Lord, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

* Two itinerant spies, who offered their services to any power, when there was a prospect of employment.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

July 4th, 1713.

I HAD not delayed till now doing myself the honour to acknowledge your Grace's letter of the 23^d of June, N.S. had I not been so much out of order, in the midst of a great hurry of domestic business, that I had not time or strength enough to go through the most necessary parts of what my office required.

Upon what your Grace writ, her Majesty gave immediately all the proper orders, with which the Court of France will, to be sure, be satisfied, when they shall have communication thereof from your Grace, to whom my Lord Dartmouth told me, he would be sure to transmit the detail of the whole. His Lordship's doing this, much better than I could, will save your Grace the trouble of a long letter from me.

Mr. Gilligan will be able to answer all that the French Guinea Company can have to object or demand, and I suppose may probably be, about this time, arrived at Paris.

You

You judge, my Lord, extremely right, that the Queen is not willing to go far in the affairs of the North, unless in conjunction with the States-General; and, most unfortunately for the common interest, and for the Protestant cause, they seem inclined to go no lengths at all: the Queen has used all motives to rouse them up to a good resolution, but hitherto all in vain.

I really think that nothing would sooner determine them to join with her Majesty, in measures to prevent the ruin of Sweden, than the appearance that France was going to interest herself in the Northern quarrel, as guaranty of the treaty of Westphalia.

Since the writing of this letter, I find, by advices from Spain, as well as from the Marquis de Montéleon, that a false alarm, which the Princess Ursini has taken, the detail of which would be too tedious to trouble your Grace withal, has delayed your dispatch in the treaty of commerce, which Mr. Gilligan hoped for: I believe, however, those mistakes may, by this time, be rectified, and he on his way to Paris.

The courier who delivers your Grace these letters, goes on to Madrid. I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, July 4th, 1713.

I AM to return my humble thanks to your Grace for the honour of your private letters of the 23rd of June, and should have done this sooner, had I not been these ten or twelve days more out of order, than I think I ever was in my life: I cannot conceal from your Grace, that vexation of mind has contributed a great deal to make me so. I will not trouble you, my Lord, with any account of the situation of our domestic affairs, I was perhaps too particular on that subject in my last; and besides, your Grace will be soon here on the spot, to observe and to judge for yourself; I will only say thus much, that I wish heartily you was here, because it will very soon be time for those, who must in honour and good sense unite in the same measure, to come to some peremptory resolution; and that resolution cannot, ought not

I not

not to be taken, till your Grace is amongst us. It is no fault of mine if you, my Lord, have not received Assurini's papers, and if Mr. Prior is not at a certainty concerning his destination. I have solicited both often, and I will repeat my solicitations, as soon as the Treasurer, who is now confined by illness, comes again abroad.

I am, my Lord, &c.

From Mr. Prior.

MY LORD,

Paris, June, 23rd, 1713.

I HAVE the favour of your letter of the 31st May; I hope you know that to me, of all men living, you need make no excuse for not answering regularly; whenever I hear from you I find a good and instructive correspondent, and when I do not hear from you, I comfort myself in having a real and eternal friend. I pity you heartily in the labour of the battle you sustain; but when I easily remember that nobody can do it but yourself, I find my concern upon that head diminish extremely. The Duke of Shrewsbury answers you upon every head of business; I

have reminded Lord Treasurer of that of Turin; but your faces are all turned so towards the North, that you have not time to think of any other point of the compass.

I delivered your letter to Monsieur de Torcy; he will thank you for it himself; Madame de Torcy, says she is very much your servant; and how much Madame de Feriole is really so, she tells you in the inclosed. That family dined with me on Sunday, little Brother Sim assisting at the celebration of the festival.

I find the Duke of Shrewsbury resolved to come to you, as soon as his visits are dispatched, so that I believe you will judge it time to think of a successor for him; but as you very well observe, nothing is done in your country with too great precipitancy: the Duke of Shrewsbury has writ more than once upon that subject.

It is now known that Monsieur d'Aligre is named for England; Châteauneuf (*Homme de Robe*) for Holland; Count Brancas for Spain; and the Marquis de Lasse's son (you know his father) for Prussia (Berlin); for the rest, things go *more solito*. The old Monarch, at seventy-five, eats and sleeps at Versailles, as if he were

at

at your age; and seems less concerned about the Empire continuing a war, than you can be about the Scots threatening to break the union; and the Elector of Bavaria is at Surrenne's, playing at lansquena, and giving balls, with as much satisfaction as if the treaty of Ilmersheim were made good, and he in possession of his own palace at Munich.

Adieu, my Lord, &c.

M. PRIOR.

To Mr. Prior.

Whitehall, July 4th, 1713.

YOU are very just to an honest heart; when you depend upon my friendship, it shall never fail you: God knows whether it will at any time be useful to you.

Believe me, dear Matt, I have not been unmindful of you, nor cool in my solicitations to have your station appointed; my Lord Treasurer is at present confined by illness; as soon as he returns to Court, I attack him afresh.

I am unfortunate in all my negotiations, at least in all those at home,

At the last election at Westminster, I en-

deavoured to have sent a very pretty lad, who wears your name, and therefore was entitled to my best services, to Christ Church; but Bentley *pro solitâ humanitate suâ*, leaped over eight boys, to make this youth his first option, and remained, with all the good breeding of a pedant, inflexible.

I make no doubt but you are surprized at the wisdom of our Senate, in suspending the passing of the bill, to make effectual the eighth and ninth articles of the treaty of commerce. Lord Anglesey and Sir T. Hanmer are at the head of this worthy project.

The treaties met with the coldest reception, when they were laid before the Houses; and those who were frightened out of their senses lest they should not be made, affected to appear very indifferent to them, when they were made.

Judge whether the Whigs were blind to this advantage, or slow to disperse lies, to raise prejudices, to work up a momentary ferment; their lies, these prejudices, this ferment, were urged as reasons for doing nothing this Session, in the business of commerce.

Adieu, *quos perdere vult Jupiter prius demorat.*

mentat. God keep you and I in our wits.
Love me as I love you.

A Madame la Princesse des Ursins.

De Whitehall, ce 5^{me} Juillet, 1713.

J'AI vu, Madame, par les lettres de Monsieur de Lexington, aussi-bien que par celles de Monsieur de Montéleon, dans quelles inquiétudes votre Altesse s'est trouvée, lorsqu'elle a observée que le projet qui a été envoyé d'ici en dernier lieu, & sur le fondement duquel nous espérons que Messieurs les Plénipotentiaires au Congrès auront présentement perfectionné le traité de paix, ne contenoit pas l'article qui regarde la souveraineté indépendante, c'est pourquoi je n'ai point voulu différer un moment à dépêcher ce courrier, pour informer votre Altesse des raisons sur lesquelles nous avons, Monsieur de Montéleon et moi, réglé notre conduite. Je me flatte par avance qu'elle en fera contente, et qu'elle trouvera que ses intérêts ne pouvoient être, par rapport à la Reine, dans une meilleure situation. Le projet ne contient que ces articles du traité de paix, qui dépendent uniquement des deux cours, dans
la

la négociation desquels nulle autre puissance a droit d'entrer, et dont nous étions alors en état de régler définitivement les termes.

Il y a d'autres articles, comme celui qui regarde la souveraineté de votre Altesse, celui qui regarde le fief de Sienne, et celui, que sa Majesté Catholique tant souhaite, pour empêcher aucun démembrement ultérieur de la Monarchie d'Espagne, sur lesquels il n'y a pas le moindre dispute entre les Ministres de la Reine, et ceux du Roi, et qu'il n'étoit pourtant pas possible de savoir précisément en quels termes il faudroit les insérer dans le traité, lorsque nous avons signé le projet. Voilà, Madame, la seule raison, sur quoi votre Altesse n'a point trouvé la stipulation, à laquelle elle s'étoit attendue. L'essentiel étoit fixé, il ne s'agissoit que des formes. Comme je suis entré fort au long dans ce détail avec Monsieur de Lexington, je ne veux point abuser de la patience de votre Altesse, ce Ministre aura l'honneur de lui expliquer notre pensée, et de l'assurer qu'elle n'a rien à craindre.

La bonne foi de la Reine a éclaté dans tout le cours de la négociation, & sa Majesté ne se refroidira certainement pas, dans une affaire,
faire,

faire, qu'elle a pris à cœur et sur laquelle votre Altesse ne peut pas ignorer la vivacité & la fermeté avec lesquelles ses Ministres ont par tout insisté: si dans le traité de France et d'Hollande on s'est contenté du terme de Principauté sans spécifier la souveraineté & l'indépendance, ce qui donne lieu au Ministres des Etats de chicaner avec ceux d'Espagne; on a mal fait, mais il est facile d'y remédier; & j'ose répondre à votre Altesse, comme my Lord de Strafford a fait au Marquis de Monteleon, qui étoit alarmé d'une conférence qu'il venoit d'avoir avec Monsieur Vanderdussen, que les Plénipotentiaires d'Espagne n'ont qu'à se tenir fermes & bien unis avec ceux de la Grande Bretagne, pour faire passer cet article, de la manière qu'il a été concerté & dressé entr'eux.

Je ne puis point me résoudre à finir cette lettre, qui devient être ennuyeuse par sa longueur, avant que j'ai eu l'honneur de dire à votre Altesse, que la Reine espère que le traité de commerce a reçu la dernière main, puisque sa Majesté ne pourra plus long-tems laisser à Madrid le Sieur Gilligan, qu'elle se trouve obligée d'employer ailleurs.

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La Reine a fait tout son possible pour aplanir les difficultés qui s'étoient formées, & pour faciliter les négociations des Ministres d'Espagne, tant ici qu'à Utrecht ; elle se flatte qu'en révanche le Roi Catholique voudra bien donner les ordres nécessaires pour finir un traité qui regarde les intérêts des deux nations, & qui a été depuis plusieurs mois en délibération.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, July 11th, 1713.

I HAD lately a very proper opportunity to speak to the Queen about your Excellency, and about the embassy of France ; by what her Majesty was pleased to answer, I found her inclined, as soon as her service will admit of your leaving Holland, to call you home. I could not perceive that she had determined who to send to the Court of France, but she seemed not to entertain any thoughts of employing your Lordship there.

For my own part, besides the particular satisfaction, which I shall have in living
with

with your Lordship here, I must own that I shall be glad to see your spirit and vigour exerted in the support of the Queen's administration, which, in my opinion, wants nothing else totally to subdue all opposition. Adieu, my dear Lord; do me the justice to be persuaded that no man loves you better than your, &c.

A Monsieur le Marquis de Montéleon.

De Whitehall, ce 12^{me} Juillet, 1713.

JE ne me suis pas fort pressé, je vous l'avoue, Monsieur, de répondre à la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire le 2^{me} de ce mois, N.S. & que j'ai reçu des mains de Monsieur Tanqueux, parce que je savois que, dans peu de jours, tout ce que la Reine pouvoit faire de plus favorables pour la Princesse des Ursins seroit fait, & parce que je savois aussi qu'il étoit impossible de rien ajouter aux ordres précis, dont Messieurs les Ambassadeurs de la Reine étoient déjà munis.

Vous avez parlé, Monsieur, à Vander Dussen, & aux autres Députés de l'état,
dans

dans le style qu'il faut soutenir; continuez à faire de même, ces gens fileront doux, & la réussite de cette affaire sera agréable à nos souhaits.

Je ne dois pas vous déguiser que j'ai trouvé la Reine un peu choquée de ce que la Princesse des Ursins a pris si vite l'alarme, & de ce que des soupçons si mal fondés, ont arrêté le cours des négociations de Madrid, & accroché un traité qui devoit avoir été conclu, il y a long-tems : sa Majesté crût qu'après toutes les déclarations qu'elle avoit faites, & toutes les mesures qu'elle avoit prises pour cette Princesse, cette bonne foi, à laquelle sa Majesté n'a jamais manqué, ne seroit point révoquée en doute.

Je félicite votre Excellence, de tout mon cœur, de l'accomplissement de notre grand ouvrage; travaillons à rendre cette union, qui vient de s'établir, éternelle, en éloignant toutes ces jaloufies, qui seules peuvent y donner la moindre atteinte. Il n'est pas nécessaire que je m'explique d'avantage, votre Excellence m'entend de reste.

Les Ministres de la Reine ne manqueront pas de conférer avec vous, selon les ordres que je leurs envoie par ce courier; votre

Excellence

Excellence verra, par les représentations de ces Messieurs, de quelle manière sa Majesté envisage la négociation entre l'Espagne & le Portugal. Je ne veux point entrer dans ce détail ; je me bornerai à la supplier de bien faire sentir à la Cour de Madrid, que la Reine ne peut pas se dispenser de soutenir les Portuguais, après les avoir obligés de se départir de certaines demandes, très dures pour le Roi Catholique, mais telles que sa Majesté auroit été contrainte d'insister dessus, si la Cour de Lisbonne n'avoit donnée la facilité susdite.

Je ne puis rien ajouter aux raisons que je vous ai donnés, Monsieur, à plusieurs reprises, pour montrer l'utilité qu'il y auroit pour les deux nations, en vous envoyant auprès de la Reine. Je compte qu'on vous destine pour l'ambassade de France, vous savez les réflexions que je fais là-dessus. Je doute fort que beaucoup d'autres feront les mêmes.

Je suis, &c.

A Mon-

*A Monsieur le Duc d'Osune**.

MONSIEUR,

De Whitehall, ce 21me Juillet, 1713.

VOTRE Excellence veut bien que je profite du départ de ce courier, pour la féliciter sur l'heureux accomplissement du grand ouvrage de la paix. Vos soins, Monsieur, ont beaucoup contribué à la faire, & je ne doute point que vous ne portiez la même attention à l'affermissement de l'union des deux nations.

Votre Excellence verra, par l'article que les Ministres de la Reine viennent de signer, & que je renverrai dans peu de jours, ratifié à Utrecht, infiniment mieux quelles sont les intentions de sa Majesté à l'égard de la Princesse des Ursins, que par tout ce que je pourrois lui dire là-dessus. Nous nous flattons que cette Princesse sera présentement convaincu, que ses intérêts étoient en bonnes mains, quand elles étoient entre celles de la Reine. Je suis, &c.

* Chief Plenipotentiary on the part of Spain, at the Hague.

A Monsieur

A Monsieur le Duc d'Atri.

De Whitehall, ce 12^{me} Juillet, 1713.

JE vous félicite, Monsieur, à mon tour, du rétablissement de la paix, entre deux nations, qui ne peuvent jamais être ennemis, sans se départir de leurs véritables intérêts. Vous êtes témoin, Monsieur, jusques à quel point nous sommes imbus de cette maxime. Je ne doute point qu'on ne soit persuadé de la même vérité en Espagne, & que rien ne puisse à l'avenir altérer cette bonne intelligence, & cette étroite amitié qui viennent d'être établies. Je suis, &c.

A Monsieur le Marquis de Montigo.

De Whitehall, ce 14^{me} Juillet, 1713.

QUOIQU' j'ai répondu à vos dernières lettres, par le courier qui partit d'ici Dimanche passé, vous voulez bien, Monsieur, que je me serve de l'occasion qui se présente, par le retour du Sieur Tanqueux, pour vous faire de nouveau mes complimens.

J'entends de tous côtés, que la Cour d'Espagne vous destine à l'Ambassade de France : le Duc d'Aumont me l'a même confirmé.

En cas que cette destination vous soit agréable, je prends tout le part que l'amitié très sincère, que je conserverai toujours pour votre personne, exige de moi. Vous savez, Monsieur, sur ce chapitre, la pensée que j'ai eu. Les intérêts réciproques de l'Espagne & de la Grande Bretagne, & l'affermissement de l'union que nous venons de rétablir, me semblent demander un plus grand soin qu'à l'ordinaire, dans le choix du ministre qui fera ici de la part du Roi Catholique, au moins pendant les deux premières années de la paix. Une conduite très délicate, & une confiance très parfaite, sont requises pour déraciner entièrement des préjugés qui ont été fortifiés pendant la guerre, pour prévenir des jaloufies qui pourront naître pendant la paix, pour jeter les fondemens d'une augmentation de puissance à la Monarchie Espagnole, dans laquelle cette nation trouveroit aussi ses convenances, & pour nous cimenter d'une telle manière ensemble, que ni les accidens que peuvent arriver tant ici qu'en Espagne, ni les changemens que le tems peut apporter au systême général des affaires de l'Europe, soient capables, à l'avenir, de séparer nos intérêts, & de nous rendre ennemis.

ennemis. Voilà des vues qu'on pourroit avoir en vous employant auprès de la Reine, mais il faut que sa Majesté Catholique prévoie des conjonctures, qui peuvent se former en France d'une plus grande conséquence pour ses royaumes & pour sa famille; votre Excellence a souhaité que je lui écrivisse sans réserve; j'ai promis de le faire, & elle voit je lui tiens parole.

Le Comte de Strafford me mande, que dans l'article de votre traité avec la Hollande, qui porte que les Etats-Généraux feront sur le pied *d'amicissima gens*; il y a une exception, pour le vaisseau accordé aux fujets de la Reine par l'affiente. Je ne fais s'il n'auroit mieux valu, puisqu'une exception a été trouvée nécessaire, de la coucher dans termes plus étendus, par rapport à ce contrat en général.

Dites-moi, s'il vous plaît, en confidence, comment le Duc d'Osune a été satisfait de la réponse que je fis à la lettre qu'il m'écrivit il y a quelque tems, sur le sujet de l'article qu'il avoit projeté de faire insérer dans le traité de Savoye. Je vous avoue que je me suis trouvé un peu embarrassé dans cette occasion.

Messieurs les Ministres d'Hollande sont à la vérité très peu galans, de former tant de difficultés dans une affaire qui ne regarde que les intérêts d'une Dame. J'espère qu'ils reviendront de cette opiniâtreté, & montreront, à notre exemple, plus de politesse.

Je suis, &c.

Au nom de Dieu, finissez avec les Portugais.

From Mr. Prior.

Paris, July 13-24th, 1713.

WHILST I acknowledge your letter of the 4th, my Lord, I may tell you, that I find an equal concern for the public, and an equal sympathy of friendship, as you had when you writ; but after all, *que faire?* is the end of my philosophy. If we will debar ourselves the traffic of a nation, that desires us to take goods, which we confess we cannot be without; if we will take those very goods from another nation, who has nothing of its own growth; if we will set the French upon a necessity of making cloth,

till

till at last it grows indifferent to them if they take our cloth or no, and then complain that it lies upon our hands; if we will keep tobacco bonded now eighteen months by act of Parliament, and then not know how to distribute it, till we have the whole product of past years by us, damaged and spoiled, and above half the number of the importers are broke and gone off; if we will, ten years together, sigh these things as the grievances of a war, and say we do not understand them, when they are proposed to be remedied; if one confesses the falsehood of an argument, yet act as if one was convinced by it, and postpone the consideration of the trade of England, till one has assumed his seat in the next parliament; if —yet is all this, my Lord, your fault or mine? I should vex you anew, if I represented the great indifference with which France receives our proceedings, except only the people upon the Garonne, who are evident losers by what they had already embarked and destined for England; on the other side, I believe, before next Session, you will have clamours enough from some of our people.

In the course of business, I find these people grow colder to us. Welden, the East India Governor, asked them (by a memorial which the Duke of Shrewsbury and I gave in) for about the value of 2000l. sterling, which he pretended were jewels, &c. belonging to his wife and daughter; instead of an answer, they have returned a great collection of letters, which serve to contradict his assertions, and invalidate his claim.

In Shepherd's business, which I hoped to make up, it not being indeed one of the best causes in the world, I thought I had agreed with Monsieur de Torcy, that Valincourt should oblige the persons interested, to compound, *pour tout potage*, for 20,000 livres. Valincourt sends me, ten days after, a letter and proposal from the people concerned, to do the whole for 25,000 livres.— Pitiful! my Lord, is it not?

I am likewise afraid for another cause: English effects taken upon Hamburgh and Bremish bottoms, though Ponchartrain's letters to me upon the subject, are full of civilities; a good deal of this proceeding, I take to have arisen from what the wisdom of our nation is doing.

I am

I am obliged to you very particularly, for your care of my friend Prior; I cannot imagine how you came to know that snudging boy, for his mother is very homely. Bentley will always be an ill-bred pedant; can the leopard change his skin? I hope you may never have any thing more essential to trouble you, than the disappointment of the boy's going to Trinity*. I think I shall always have interest enough in Cambridge, to make his stay there easy; and if he has the continuance of your patronage, I think too, matters cannot go so ill, but that in four years we may set him afloat in the world.

Mr. Frowd, Comptroller of the Post-office, is arrived here, in order to settle an agreement with Monsieur Pajot, for the opening our literal correspondence; so that at once we tell them we will have no commerce with them, and desire them to forward our commerce with other nations, by their means, comical!

The Post-masters have sent me a full power to act for them, and a letter of direction for my so doing, without one word

* College, Cambridge.

from either Lord Treasurer or Secretary of State, comical again!

I write to you concerning my own affairs, as if they were your's; my Lord Shrewsbury is coming to you (a good deal out of humour, however his good-breeding strives to conceal it); by nobody being named, I presume I am to stay here some time longer; of this Lord Shrewsbury has writ, you have spoke, and the Grand Monarch has asked. Am I to go to pay the compliment at Turin? am I to stay here? am I to come home? If I am to stay, though but two months after the ambassador, must not I have a house, a parson, and a long &c.? If I am to go to Turin, is it not convenient I should be soon back again, in case I am to stay? Adieu, my Lord, I vex you by these questions; and as to myself, I grow as great a philosopher, as a good deal of indifference can make me. Pray put my Lord Treasurer in mind of Dick Shelton; and believe me truly sensible of the very great friendship with which you honour me, and which I can no more express than I can deserve.

I am, &c.

MAT.

To

To Mr. Prior.

Whitehall, July 25th, 1713.

I SHOULD be as much a philosopher as you appear, friend Matthew, in your last letter, on the subject of the bill of commerce, or on account of any other of those numerous disgraces and mortifications, which of late we have been exposed to, were they the consequences of an insolent enemy's superior force, or did they proceed from the desertion of our friends, who disliked our cause. But neither of these is the present case.

Our enemies are in themselves contemptible, and our friends are well inclined. The former have no strength but what we might have taken from them, and the latter no dissatisfaction, but what we might have prevented. Let the game which we have, be wrested out of our hands; this I can bear: but to play, like children, with it, till it slips between our fingers to the ground, and sharpers have but to stoop and take it up; this consideration distracts a man of spirit, and not to be vexed in this case, is not to be sensible.

I do

I do not at all wonder, that the people where you are, grow colder to us. I never expected any thing from their gratitude, and the ready way to fall into contempt abroad, is to fall, as we have done, into contempt at home.

When I set pen to paper, I did not design to have encroached on Lord Dartmouth, or said one word to you about public business; but there comes into my thoughts, whilst I am writing, a matter which is of consequence, and which I think I ought to mention to you.

The Duc d'Aumont still continues to tell me, every time we meet, that his master looks on the convention for the neutrality of Italy, to be no longer obligatory, since the Imperialists have broke it by raising contributions, by taking barks on the coast, &c. that the Court of Vienna will never grow tired of the war whilst it is waged on the Rhine, and at a distance from the hereditary countries, or others immediately belonging to the house of Austria; that therefore the surest and most expeditious method of inclining the Emperor to peace, would be to attack Sardinia, and his possessions in

Italy, but that the King will not engage in such an undertaking, unless the Queen, tacitly at least, approve of it.

This language was held both to our Ministers and those of Savoy, by the Plenipotentiaries of France, before they left Utrecht; and as it may probably be renewed to you, I will acquaint you with the answer which was given in Holland and here. We said that such a resolution would be too precipitate; that if the neutrality was not observed on one side it could not indeed justly be reckoned binding on the other, but then that Great Britain and France were to act as guaranties of it; that we were to expect formal and evident proofs of the particular infractions; that complaints and requisitions were to be made, and a reasonable time allowed for answers, before it could be proper to proceed to the *voies de fait*; that our true interest seemed at present to be, endeavouring by all means possible to dispose the minds of the German Ministers to begin where they left off, and not undertaking any measure which might remove the foundation already laid, or break through the plan almost finished at Utrecht.

I cannot

I cannot conclude this letter, without desiring you to try at a matter which I have very much at heart, and which I would have writ to the Duke of Shrewsbury upon, had I not apprehended that he might take it ill, if I should apply to him upon a supposition of what he does not own. In a word, we imagine he goes to Ireland, in that case might not Mr. Hare be secretary there? Addison went from the office at Whitehall to that post. Mr. Hare has served so very well, that whatever becomes of me, I should be under the last concern if he was not provided for. My Lord Treasurer's provisions come too slow, and are so uncertain, that I expect little from him. I have solicited for an uncle of my wife's, these three years, all I pretended to was an employment of 200l. a-year, which has been vacant above half the time, and I have not succeeded. Judge you, whether I am likely to trouble my Lord for any other person. If you find that easy moment, which should be watched for in our applications to great men, use it for Mr. Hare's service.

Adieu, dear Matt, in my friendship to you I can never alter.

Serveter

Servetur ad imum qualis ab incepto processerit,
& *tibi constat*; compliments as you see good.

Lord Treasurer is extremely ill; if he was well, I should know nothing of your destination. Once more, yours ever,

BOLINGBROKE.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

Paris, July 25th, 1713, N.S.

I SO well comprehend the vexation of mind which your Lordship so well describes, that I even feel it; it is not possible at this distance to be enough informed of particulars, to understand the cause of what has happened of late. Allow me for the present only to recommend temper and moderation, and to beg of you to do nothing hastily that may be deferred; for what is not done at one time, may at another, but what is once done can never be undone. I will make what haste I can into England, and hope to be with you in less than a month. The messenger waits *.

I am, my Lord, your Lordship's &c.

SHREWSBURY.

* The reader will have observed that several recent letters have shown the distracted and divided state of her Majesty's Ministers, which was now growing daily worse.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, July 25th, 1713.

I CANNOT let your Grace leave France, before I have returned you my most humble thanks for the honour of your letter of the 25th of this month, N.S. which brings me the most certain proof of your favour and friendship, since I am sure your Grace would give no advice to those, for whom you had no concern.

It never entered into my thoughts to take any step of the kind you hint at, without your Grace's knowledge and approbation.

I shall own my opinion and inclination, and after that shall be ready to sacrifice both to the good pleasure of your Grace, my Lord Chancellor *, and my Lord Trevor †.

It is, on many accounts, great satisfaction to your servants here, to know that your Grace will soon be amongst us: no measure will be fixed upon till you arrive; and all join in thinking, that it is high time some resolution was taken for retrieving our affairs, or for securing our retreat. I speak

* Lord Harcourt.

† Chief Justice of the Common Pleas

in this style, because you will find no difference in opinion ; and the two Lords I name above, will appear, on this occasion, to have as little phlegm as Peterborough or myself.

The Treasurer is again extremely ill, and I doubt his health is so shattered by frequent returns of illness, as to be little depended upon.

The Queen has no very great use of her legs, but, in other respects, is perfectly well.

Sick, or well, in or out, I am, and ever will be, my Lord, your Grace's, &c.

To the Lord Chancellor.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, July 28th, 1713.

THE occasion of my interrupting your Lordship at this time, is a letter which I received from Lord Treasurer, and some discourse which I had with the Queen. I find both very desirous that there may be no delay in dissolving this Parliament, and issuing writs for the new one. My Lord Treasurer writes, that he hoped your Lordship had asked the Queen's leave to have writs ready prepared.

prepared. You will please to take this hint, and give any directions from the country, which may serve to quicken this matter. If, in form, the Queen is to be spoke to, upon the first notice, I will take care to do it in the manner your Lordship shall direct.

I am, &c.

It would be of use to know precisely the day when your Lordship will be in town.

To Mr. Drummond.

S I R,

Whitehall, July 25th, 1713.

YOUR public and your private dispatches, your manner of serving the Queen, and the success of your endeavours, are all equally agreeable. I promise myself that you do me the justice, to be persuaded that this merit loses, by my representations, none of its lustre. My Lord Treasurer is now confined very closely by a severe fit of the gravel, an inflammation in his eyes, and a falling of the same, or some other humour, into his knees. This accident retards the wheels of our administration in every respect. As soon as

he returns abroad, you may be assured, that I shall put him in mind of acknowledging your services, in proportion to what they deserve. My Lord is your friend, and the Queen is so justly prepared in your favour, that I make no doubt but you will immediately have another payment than what Courts usually make, hopes and promises. No matter who signed the provisional regulation, you made it.

The conduct of the Dutch, in this affair, though they are come up to what we desired, I own to you, do not give that satisfaction which I could wish, who sincerely desire to see them closely united to the Queen, and in order to that end, all jealousies between the two nations (particularly as to the Netherlands) removed. This can only be brought about by their laying aside that air of superiority, and that spirit of over-reaching us, which they have been too long suffered to assume, and to exert.

Can it be right to lose all hold of the French commissaries? If we separate entirely from them, we stand more at the mercy of the Dutch. I think we might manage be-

tween them, so as to make use of both, and be used by neither.

I never made any doubt of your being perfectly easy with my Lord Privy Seal. Perhaps her Majesty may think it proper to order his Excellency to take Brussels in his way home, whilst the Earl of Strafford remains in Holland, to finish what may be left undone, either at Utrecht or at the Hague. But we must first see those poor creatures, the Portuguese, out of pain, and feel the pulse of the Dutch and the Princes of the Empire, how far they will contribute to subdue the warlike spirit of the Court of Vienna, who talk, I hear, of another campaign, in the midst of their inability to support this. All this I write for you alone.

My brother will be back with you in about a fortnight. Let me beg of you to send to the academy at Utrecht, and desire the master to have particular care of two horses of mine, which were left in his hands by George. I shall send for them over in a short time.

I shall be much obliged to you, if you
please

please to send me some account of the measures taking in Holland, to make use of our wise step, in rejecting the bill of commerce.

I am, &c.

To the Duke of Richmond.*

MY LORD,

Whitehall, July 30th, 1713.

IF I have been slow in answering the letters, which your Grace has honoured me with, the Duchefs of Richmond will do me, I am sure, the justice to let you know, that I have not been so in my endeavours to obey your commands.

Till the bill passed for enabling the Queen to pay the civil list debts, it was in vain to apply in the Duchefs of Portsmouth's behalf; and since that time, the Treasurer has been so ill, that for many days together, his most intimate friends have not had access to him; I will deliver your Grace's letter, and set your request in the best light I can to him, the moment he comes abroad; as soon as that is done, I will not fail to apply to her

* Then abroad, soliciting his claims in right of (or rather the claims of) his mother, Madame Louisa de Querouaille, Duchefs of Portsmouth, to estates in France.

Majesty ; of these proceedings, and of the answers I get, the Duchess of Richmond, who is now in town upon this affair, shall be punctually informed, and perhaps, I may be able, even before the dispatch of the letter I am now writing, to say something to you. In all cases, and on all occasions, I beg your Grace to be persuaded, that you have not a more devoted, faithful servant, than

B.

To Lord Lexington.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, August 1st, 1713.

I HAVE the honour of your Lordship's letters of the 17th and 23d of July, as well as those which accompanied the articles of commerce. Those of the 23d, were brought me by the courier, whom I dispatch back, some days before those of an older date arrived at Dunkirk.

As to the affair of the Princess des Ursins, it must at the first view, appear impracticable to those, who knew any thing of the present state of the Spanish Low Countries, or of the tenure by which her Majesty holds
such

such places as she is in possession of there. Dixmuyd we have nothing to do with. In the castle of Ghent, in Nieuport, and in Bruges, we have garrisons; but these are very small, sufficient in peaceable times to keep the gates, but far from being sufficient to give the law, or parcel out any district of country. Besides, if her Majesty was able to do what is desired of her, she would not think it just or agreeable to her honour. The cession of the whole Spanish Netherlands, is deposited in her hands. The towns, wherein her troops are, she has reserved a power to garrison, till such time as the Emperor shall give her satisfaction with respect to trade, and no longer.

After this short view of the Queen's strength and engagements, I need not, I think, say any more on this head; your Lordship will please to make the King, the Queen, and the Princess sensible, that the expedient proposed is utterly impracticable, and what they would themselves have never thought of, had they known, as much as you are now able to inform them of: sure I am, they can have no reasonable suspicion, that the Queen is not willing to do every

thing proper towards the advancement of an affair, which their Catholic Majesties take so much to heart. The article in favour of Madame des Ursins, as it stands in our treaty with Spain, goes farther than they could expect, and is such a mark of the Queen's distinction, as ought nevr to be forgot by those, in favour of whom it was inserted.

Endeavour to cure the Court of the alarms they have taken on the behaviour of the Dutch, let but their ministers be firm in the right place, and easy in the right place, and the States will, after many long speeches, and much fullen obstinacy, prove tractable at last. And now, my Lord, give me leave to ask you, and to desire that you would ask the Princess des Ursins and the ministers, how they expect the Queen should continue to treat with candour and complacency towards his Catholic Majesty, when she meets every day with the contrary of all this from his ministers? I do appeal to any impartial man, whether any nation gave another such usage, especially after so many and so fresh, as well as important obligations, as we have received in three instances from the Court of Madrid. I mean, our negotiation

ciation about commerce, the disputes with Portugal, and the act of the cession of Sicily to the Duke of Savoy. As to the former, it was a poor short-sighted policy, to think, by getting the treaty of peace signed first, that the Queen would be at their mercy with respect to that of commerce. Your Lordship will please to take the first opportunity of letting the Minister feel, that their artifice imposes on nobody here, and you will please to express to the King, how much the Queen was surprized, when she received, after so many delays, so many promises, and such a length of negociation, an indigested memorial instead of a treaty ; to insert what they refuse as well as what they grant, was absurd, but to refer from Madrid to Utrecht, from the master to the servants, is really to call us names, and to use us like children and fools. I am at work to reduce this scheme of trade to somewhat like a treaty, and to prepare instructions for the Queen's Ministers there to perfect it ; which I hoped would never have been their task. We hope that the Spanish Ministers may, by signing some things, at least *sub spe rati*, be able to conclude with ours ; otherwise, I protest to your Lordship, and you may even say

the same to the Court where you are, I think we shall be almost as far asunder as we were when we began to treat.

The proceedings of the Spaniards with the Portuguese, is another article which touches the Queen very nearly; we prevailed on the latter voluntarily and frankly to depart from all those demands of a barrier, which were so particularly grievous to the Catholic King, and which, if they had not receded from, her Majesty was too fast bound by treaty to have been able to give up; and consequently to have contributed, as she has since done, to deliver Spain from that war, which raged in the country, and to render the King's possession of his throne at once quiet and secure in return for this, the Queen insisted, before she would sign her peace with France, or carry on a negociation with Spain, that certain articles should be secured by these two powers to the Portuguese. The articles demanded of France were much more considerable than those demanded of Spain. France has performed her part, and now the Spaniards refuse to perform theirs.

We cannot bring ourselves up to fancy that his Catholic Majesty will continue inflexible,

flexible, and the Queen most earnestly hopes he will not; because she is determined, let the event be what it will, not to abandon the King of Portugal, who has thrown himself into her arms, nor to let him suffer by the dependence which he has had on her word.

I send your Excellency inclosed the act of guaranty, which will pass the great seal on Thursday or Friday next, that you may see, and be able to tell the Court of Spain, what resolutions their measures have obliged the Queen to take. I can assure you, my Lord, that her Majesty will risk any thing, rather than leave the King of Portugal in the lurch; and of this you may assure whom you please, and pawn my credit for it, as far as that will go.

The treatment which the Duke of Savoy meets with is, if possible, still more extraordinary than all this: the Queen demands the kingdom of Sicily for him, and his Most Christian Majesty grants it, by virtue of a full power trusted in his hands by his grandson, without any condition annexed to this grant, but that of not alienating; the treaty comes to be settled, and these several conditions

tions are offered on the part of Spain. All of these might justly have been rejected, but some were, in compliance with the King of Spain's desire, admitted; the rest his Majesty's Ministers gave up, and absolutely departed from. After all these steps, out comes an act of cession, dated before the treaty, in which the conditions left out in the treaty are inserted. We cannot help looking on this proceeding as unfair and weak; and the Queen depends on the Catholic King, that he will render his cession conformable to his promise and his word, solemnly given in the treaty, signed by his Plenipotentiaries; at least, she declares that she looks on the treaty to be the foundation of the Duke of Savoy's right, and the rule of his possession, and to be so incorporated into her own, that she cannot ratify the latter, until the King of Spain ratifies the former, purely and absolutely, without any of the clogs foisted into the act of cession.

I hope this courier will find your Lordship still at Madrid, though I reckon you will have taken your character, have made your entry, and be preparing to return. Pray, my Lord, at parting, give the King a little good advice;

advice; and, for his sake, for ours, and for the whole, endeavour to have such instructions and powers sent to Utrecht, as may oblige and enable the Duke d'Offuna and the Marquis de Montéleon, to finish the treaty of commerce in some tolerable manner with us; to conclude with the Portuguese, on the foot proposed by the Queen, and to rectify the mistake, for such I hope it will only prove, in the cession of Sicily.

The Emperor, and those who are openly or secretly against the conclusion of the war, and the settlement of Europe, on the plan we here concerted, think it their interest (and such it certainly is) to keep as many points of negociation as possible unadjusted, and to foment some part of the fire of the war, though none are burnt by it but themselves. These people know, that many accidents may happen, by means whereof, every thing may revert back into confusion, and the war kindle afresh, whilst they keep up dissatisfaction among those who have treated, and prevent others from treating at all. This is their interest, but this can never be thought the interest of France or Spain, in the present circumstances of affairs. The
French

French are sufficiently convinced, that they ought to close with all those who will close with them, and bring back others, as fast as possible, to renew the conferences where they broke off: the first they have done, and they hope by the Queen's assistance, and under her mediation, to do the latter. The same maxim your Excellency will instil into the minds of the Spaniards: if they are fond of disputes, and hope to repair the losses, their monarchy has sustained, by new struggles, the ordinary course of affairs will hereafter produce enough; let them, in the meanwhile, perfect the great work of peace, before they begin a new plan. Let all Europe acknowledge King Philip, even his rival, and let the settlement of the two monarchies be universally received. On this foundation, the Catholic King may build what designs he pleases, but before this is laid, he runs a great risk if he ventures to disoblige those who have owned him, or to make those desperate who have not.

My letter swells to an unmeasurable length, and perhaps you ought the less to excuse me for this trouble, because my Lord Dartmouth writes, I suppose, to your Excellency
on

on most of the heads which I have touched ; but the affair is of consequence, the Court of Spain must take a new pli ; I am warm with this thought, and, having taken the pen into my hand, was not master of stopping the tide of ink. The Marquis de Bedmar has no very good pretence to the Queen's favour ; but if he had, her Majesty would never for him, for the Duke of Arcos, or for any other person, suffer an ally, whose sole dependance is on her, to be squeezed, as the Court of Spain would squeeze Portugal, by this demand of the estates. I wish your Excellency much health, much success, and a speedy return home. I am ever, &c.

B.

A Madame la Princesse des Ursins.

MADAME,

De Whitehall, ce 2^{me} d'Août, 1713.

J'AI reçu, par le courier que Monsieur de Lexington a dépêché, la lettre de votre Altesse du 24^{me} du mois passé.

J'ose l'affurer qu'il n'y a personne qui souhaite, plus ardemment que moi, les occasions de lui être util. J'ai tâché de faire pa-

roître ce zèle pour le service de votre Altesse, lorsqu'il s'agissoit du traité de paix, qui vient d'être signé entre les deux couronnes ; je continuerai à agir sur les mêmes principes à l'avenir, & votre Altesse peut disposer de moi, comme d'un homme qui lui est entièrement acquis.

Monfieur Lawless aura l'honneur d'écrire, & Monfieur de Lexington celle de représenter de bouche, à votre Altesse les raisons qui mettent la Reine dans l'impuissance de donner les mains à l'expédient proposé* de la part de sa Majesté Catholique, pour aplanir les difficultés, qui empêchent que votre Altesse soit mise en possession de la souveraineté, dont le Roi d'Espagne lui a donné un acte de cession, & dont la Reine a bien voulu être garante. Des troupes Britanniques sont à la vérité dans Gand, dans Bruges, & dans Nieuport ; mais 'elles y sont en très petit nombre. Il y en a suffisamment pour les garnisons ordinaires de ces places en tems de paix, mais il n'y a pas la cinquième partie de ce qu'il faudroit employer pour l'exécution d'un projet, auquel les Etats, & le peuple du pays,

* This expedient was for the Queen to put Ursini in possession of the places in Spanish Flanders, garrisoned by the British troops.

ne manqueroient pas de s'opposer, soutenus par sa Majesté Impériale, & par les Hollandois.

Je ne dois pas céler à votre Altesse, que cette difficulté n'est pas la seule qui se rencontre ; la cession des Pays-Bas Espagnols est faite en faveur de la maison d'Autriche ; l'acte de cette cession a été confié à la Reine en forme de dépôt ; & sa Majesté n'a aucun droit de tenir des garnisons, mêmes dans les places susmentionnées, qu'au nom de l'Empereur, & jusqu'à ce que la barrière de la Hollande & le commerce des Dix Provinces soient réglés.

Votre Altesse est trop équitable pour ne pas entrer dans la force de ce raisonnement, & trop éclairé pour ne pas voir, que les faites, que j'ai l'honneur de lui exposer, ne souffrent pas que la Reine, toute portée qu'elle soit à lui faire plaisir, puisse entreprendre une opération de la nature de celle-ci. Pour la confirmer d'autant plus dans ces sentimens, je ne dois pas lui céler un avis, que je viens de recevoir, & qui est que les Hollandois, ayant pris l'alarme sur quelques paroles lâchés à Utrecht, touchant la ville de Nieuport, ont d'abord retiré le seul regiment, Wallon, qui se trouvoit à Ostende, & ont renforcé la garnison

nison de cette place par des battalions de leurs propres troupes.

Le Duc d'Offuna, & le Marquis de Monteleon, appuyent avec toute la vivacité, & toute la sagesse nécessaire, les offices de Monsieur d'Aubigny. Les Plénipotentiaires de la Grande Bretagne soutiendront, de la même manière, les engagements que la Reine a pris à ce sujet; & je ne doute point que votre Altesse ne soit, en peu de tems, contente des effets de leurs soins. Quoique les Hollandois fassent les fiers, & affectent de garder beaucoup de mesures avec l'Empereur, ils ne laisseront pas de passer par dessus un article, dont leur paix avec l'Espagne dépend.

Ma lettre est devenu extrêmement longue, votre Altesse peut-être la trouvera ennuyante; je ne saurai pourtant m'empêcher, avant que de la finir, de représenter en abrégé à votre Altesse, ce que j'ai expliqué fort au long à Monsieur Lawless, des sentimens de la Reine, sur l'état présent des négociations des Ministres d'Espagne; il paroît à sa Majesté, que le seul moyen d'ôter toutes les espérances de ceux, qui veulent encore poursuivre la guerre, est de finir au plutôt les traités, sur lesquels on dispute présentement, & qui ne paroissent pas
devoir

devoir s'accrocher du tout. Les ennemis de la paix se flattent de l'arrivée de plusieurs accidens, qui pourront déranger le système, qui a été projeté pour le rétablissement de la tranquillité de l'Europe : ces Messieurs se flatteroient en vain & se repaîtroient des chimères, s'il n'y avoit que la paix de l'Empire imparfaite. Mais en vérité, Madame, ils ont quelque raison de prendre courage, quand ils voyent la cession de la Sicile au Duc de Savoie, faite sous les conditions, qui ne sont point portées par le traité conclu dernièrement avec ce Prince ; quand ils voyent ni armistice renouvelée ni paix signée avec le Portugal ; enfin, quand ils sauront que le traité de commerce, entre l'Espagne & la Grande Bretagne, après une négociation de plusieurs mois, est encore ouverte ; que plusieurs articles en sont refusés ; plusieurs autres dressés d'une manière vague ou ambiguë ; & que deux autres sont envoyés de Madrid à Utrecht, c'est à dire, de ceux qui donnent les pouvoirs & les instructions, à ceux qui ne peuvent que recevoir les uns & exécuter les autres.

La Reine ne peut point douter que sa Majesté Catholique prenne, dans cette conjoncture importante, des résolutions dignes de

sa prudence ; & elle s'affure que votre Altesse, qui jusques ici a tant contribué à l'avancement de ce grand ouvrage, voudra y donner la dernière main, & ne pas le laisser imparfait.

Sa Majesté se sent fort obligée au Roi Catholique de l'attention, qu'il a bien voulu donner aux représentations du Ministre de France, sur le sujet du Prince de la Riccia. La Reine souhaiteroit fort que cet infortuné veillard peut être élargi de l'étroite prison, où il a languï depuis si long-tems, sous des conditions telles qu'il plairoit au Roi de prescrire ; c'est un surcroît d'obligation qu'elle auroit à sa Majesté Catholique.

Je n'ai rien à ajouter à cette longue lettre, que des assurances du respectueux attachement, avec lequel j'ai l'honneur d'être, Madame, de votre Altesse le très, &c.

B.

De Monsieur de Torcy.

A Marli, le 6me Août, 1713.

C'EST avec beaucoup de plaisir, my Lord, que je donne à Monsieur de la Faye, Gentilhomme Ordinaire de la Maison du Roi, la

la lettre qu'il me demande pour vous, étant persuadé que vous ferez bien aise de le connoître, & vous trouverez qu'il mérite par lui-même, les bontés que je vous supplie d'avoir pour lui. Il verra que les louanges qu'on vous donne ici, & dont il est fort touché, sont encore au-dessous la vérité. J'espère que vous voudrez bien le croire, quand il vous assurera, que personne n'est plus véritablement que je suis, &c.

DE TORCY.

De Monsieur de Torcy.

A Marli, le 6^{me} Août, 1713.

QUELQUE bien que je souhaite, Monsieur, à l'Abbé Gaultier, je ne puis m'empêcher de lui envier le bonheur qu'il aura bientôt de se trouver auprès de vous. Je voudrois au moins pouvoir le partager avec lui, & qu'il fût établi de rendre visites dans le cours de l'année à ceux qu'on honore, & j'ose dire, qu'on aime aussi véritablement que vous méritez de l'être, quand on a eu l'honneur de vous connoître.

Je me rapporterois, Monsieur, à ce que l'Abbé Gaultier vous diroit de mes senti-

mens, si je ne comptois encore plus sur la justice, que vous me rendez, & dont vous avez bien voulu m'affurer encore par votre dernière lettre. Je vous supplie de ne recevoir jamais de confidence qui puisse y être contraire; &, de mon côté, je vous assure, que je me garderai bien de toute plaisanterie, qu'on puisse faussement interpréter.

Je vois, Monsieur, avec beaucoup de plaisir, que le principe de maintenir une bonne intelligence entre les deux Cours, est parfaitement établi de part & d'autre. J'espère qu'en le suivant constamment, les desseins des mal-intentionnés chez vous, tomberont, & je crois qu'ils ne subsisteroient pas longtemps, s'il étoit possible d'éteindre ce reste de guerre, que la Cour de Vienne veut entretenir, dans l'espérance qu'elle a des événemens, qui peuvent arriver en France & en Angleterre *.

Vous connoissez, Monsieur, les dispositions du Roi pour la paix; peut-être que si les ennemis en étoient moins persuadés, ils chercheroient, avec plus d'empressement, les moyens de finir la guerre. Je souhaite que

* Probably meaning the Deaths of the King of France, and of the Queen of Great Britain.

la Reine ait encore la satisfaction de contribuer à la terminer, nonobstant l'éloignement, que les Allemands témoignent pour sa médiation. Vous pouvez plus librement travailler à la faire valoir, présentement que la séparation du Parlement vous donne plus de loisir de songer aux affaires du dehors, & je crois que les instances & les offices de la Reine, pour la pacification générale, auront toujours beaucoup de force.

Conservez-moi, je vous supplie, my Lord, la part que vous m'avez promise dans l'honneur de votre amitié. Personne, en vérité, ne la desire plus que moi, & ne peut être avec un attachement plus parfait que je ferai toute ma vie, votre, &c.

DE TORCY.

From Mr. Prior.

Paris, 11th August, at night, 1713.

I RECEIVED your's of the 25th, my dear Lord, this afternoon, and take the opportunity of acknowledging it by the holy Gaultier, who goes from hence to-morrow morning, and to him I leave the representation of our affairs here.

Q 3

The

This Court has complained of the infraction of the neutrality for Italy, as well to the Duke of Shrewsbury as to myself; but I do not think they take that matter so warmly, as the Duc d'Aumont seems to infer. I shall not fail to speak the language which you dictate, in case there be occasion for it, and in the mean time I thank you most kindly for preparing me in this behalf. I have mentioned Mr. Hare's affair to his Grace of Shrewsbury, and have been so far able to execute your orders, as to prevent any engagement to another. The answer I had, was what I expected from the Duke's modesty and caution, that he could not truly say whether he was to go for Ireland or no; but that a thing of that nature would not be determined before he had spoken to your Lordship. In the mean time, I shall not fail to watch the *molliora tempora*, being very desirous to succeed in what Lord Bolingbroke recommends to me, and indeed loving Mr. Hare very well, as he truly deserves.

The Duke intends to be with you the end of this month; he is very weary of us here, and will not, I think, be much pleased with most of you on that side; I own to
you,

you, that I am a good deal troubled, that these people begin to smoke us, especially, not being superabundantly instructed to answer some objections, that even Pontchartrain can make to our conduct; but of this you will hear more from the Duke of Shrewsbury, *facere officium taliter qualiter*, is my motto: I will do what I can for my country and my friends, and so far at least endeavour to imitate my Lord Bolingbroke.

I am more concerned for what you writ about Lord Treasurer's health, than I thought I could have been for any thing; and as to my own affairs, I can no more advance them, than add a cubit to my stature, so *benedictum sit nomen Domini*, and the bully writ round his coin when he was banged.

Adieu, my dear Lord, I am most gratefully, &c.

MATT.

I just now sit down to table with my Abbé, where we wish my Lord Bolingbroke, health, prosperity, garter, love, and every thing that can please him.

Adieu, my Lord, ever yours.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, August 7th, 1713.

THE former part of the last week was taken up in a journey to Windsor, where I could not fail to be, since attending the installation gave me an opportunity of showing the esteem and friendship I have for your Lordship: the latter part of the week was broken by the Council held at Hampton-Court. Thus, my Lord, my arrear of public and private business is increased; I now sit down to pay my debts; and the first which my inclination leads me to acknowledge, is your letter of the 5th, N.S. I should be very glad to account for every thing, the clearing whereof might contribute to your satisfaction, but that is not always in the power of one who affects no curiosity, and who, out of the sphere designed him to move in, knows little more than what is voluntarily told him.

My Lord Treasurer's great and tedious illness, his unreasonable proportion of business when he is well, and perhaps his confidence that your Lordship will, sooner than
those

those with whom he has not the same intimacy, excuse an omission of this sort, may probably be the causes why your letters to him have not received punctual answers.

The particulars your Lordship mentions relating to money, I am not apprized of my Lord Treasurer's reasons or intentions upon: I will take a proper opportunity to ask both. In the mean time, allow me to observe, that none of the Queen's servants are, in this respect, on a very good foot. I neither have received, nor expect to receive, any thing on account of the journey, which I took last year, by her Majesty's order; and as to my regular appointments, I do assure your Lordship, I have heard nothing of them these two years. I am far from thinking that my case should be a rule to your Lordship, but a general grievance is much more tolerable than a particular one.

I wish, with all my heart, that all the business in Holland was over; but, my Lord, I fear there remains much behind. The treaty of commerce with Spain, which was to be finally settled at Madrid, is, by a complication of mistake and accident, still open, and must receive the last hand at Utrecht.

The

The Portuguese must be pilotted into port. Other points of an inferior nature I omit, but one I must touch, because I think that the Queen's honour requires that it should be thought of: her Majesty has made the peace, as far as it is made, and surely, before the Congress separates entirely, before her Ministers leave the place, one effort should be made towards bringing in the powers, which continue refractory, towards completing her work. These considerations show your Lordship, that you cannot be yet-awhile spared from the double capacity in which you at present act; and as they are bars to your returning home, so soon as your friends would wish to see you, so must they be obstacles to your going into France, if her Majesty had thoughts of appointing you to that embassy, since it would neither be for the Queen's service, nor for your Lordship's honour, to leave the least part of that work, which you have so signally carried on, through difficulties so numerous and so great, to be completed by any other hand.

I write sincerely what occurs to my thoughts; you are used to take my frankness

in

in good part, and give me leave to say, you ought to do so, since it proceeds from that true value and affectionate concern which I have, my dear Lord, for you.

I am, &c.

B.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, August 18th, 1713.

WHEN I came this morning hither, I found a packet from my Lord Lexington, and a mail from Holland, arrived; the former contains a great number of papers, which only serve to show, that the Court of Spain have not thought fit to keep their word in the case of the Duke of Savoy. These letters are dated the 14th of this month, N.S. The courier whom I last dispatched was not then come to Madrid. I am hopeful that when he does, the Catholic King will take new resolutions, since I find that the letters, which went by the former, have produced more reasonable orders to the Spanish Ministers at Utrecht, in the affairs of Portugal.

The

The Earl of Strafford writes, on the 26th instant, that the Emperor has been endeavouring to get the mediation of the peace of the North solely to himself, upon a pretence that your Majesty had entered into measures with France, for this purpose, exclusively of him. The contrary to this being true, your Majesty having avoided any concert with France, and having continually repeated your instances to the Emperor and to the States, that they would join with you in this mediation, it is no difficult task for your servants to destroy any impression which may have been made by this artifice.

Monfieur de Gerfsdorf has assured my Lord Strafford, that the King's orders were gone to recal the Electoral Prince of Saxony out of Italy, and to replace the Protestant servants about him; Monfieur de Gerfsdorf added, that he believed the Prince would soon have the honour to wait on your Majesty. I wish the Saxon Minister may be in the right, but neither Mr. Scot, nor Monfieur d'Elorme here, as yet said so much.

The Spaniards and the Dutch have not concluded, which seems of no disadvantage, since

since your Majesty's treaty of commerce is still open.

Monfieur d'Ahlfeldt has told the Earl of Strafford, that the King of Denmark will be content to raife the blockade of Tonningen, provided your Majesty and others (by whom, I fuppofe, he means the Emperor, the States-General, and the Elector of Hanover) put a joint garrifon into the place. I have not heard from Mr. Rosenkrantz upon this fubject, but hope I may to-morrow.

Monfieur de Montéleon informs your Majesty's fervants, that his mafter thinks of befieging Barcelona, that town refufing to fubmit to him; I do not, however, perceive, that the Spaniards are very well prepared for fuch a fiege.

The plague actually rages in many parts of the Empire. The King of Pruffia has forbid all commerce with Austria, Moravia, Bohemia, Silefia, and Ratifbon. The ficknefs at Vienna, is got amongst the fervants of the Emperor's family, but his Imperial Majesty is not yet removed. My letters from Hamburgh give but too much reason to believe, that this town is at laft
infected,

infected, notwithstanding all the care which has been taken in that city to prevent it.

I presume to inclose to your Majesty, the warrant for making the Earl of Plymouth Lord Lieutenant of Denbigh and Flint, my Lord Treasurer having told me, that this warrant admitted of no difficulty, and my Lord Plymouth, pressing extremely to go out of town, because of his health, which is very bad. I have been employed all this day with Mr. Secretary Bromley, and have given him, as I shall continue to do, the best information and assistance I am able. I hope, to bring down to Windsor, on Friday, all the business in the two offices ready for your Majesty's commands.

I am, &c.

B.

To the Bishop of London.*

MY LORD,

Whitehall, August 19th, 1713.

ON Mr. Bromley's promotion to the Secretary's office, the Queen has thought it for

* Translated from Bristol; at this time also, many changes occurred in the public offices. Francis Gwin, made Secretary at War, vice Sir William Wyndham, Earl of Mar, third Secretary

for her service, that I should take the southern province under my care. Your Excellency does me, I am persuaded, the justice to believe, that I quit with regret, a correspondence which I have so long had the pleasure of entertaining, and in which it has been my peculiar happiness to contribute in some small degree to the greatest events that this age will in all probability behold.

Mr. Secretary Bromley going for some days, into the country, to settle his private affairs, before he enters on the business of his department, I shall have the honour during that time, to lay your Excellency's dispatches before the Queen, and to communicate her Majesty's orders to you.

Allow me, my Lord, to take this opportunity of assuring you, that I join with all honest men, and true sons of the Church of England, in rejoicing very heartily at your promotion to the see of London; and that I sincerely desire, since your Excellency's inclination to do good can never

cretary of State. Lord Dartmouth, Privy Seal, vice Bishop of London. William Bromley, Secretary of State, vice Dartmouth. Sir William Wyndham, Chancellor of Exchequer, vice Benson, created Lord Bingley, and appointed Ambassador to Madrid.

increase, that, by her Majesty's future favours, more ample occasions of doing it, may be still furnished to you.

I am, my Lord, &c.

B.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, August 19th, 1713.

YOU will find my other dispatch extremely dry, and indeed it cannot be otherwise. Shifting employments, and some little ferments, in order to come to a better, I hope, and a more firm settlement, has retarded the progress of all foreign business to a great degree, and I have now bundles of letters and memorials of both provinces, enough to scare a man from his office, and to hinder him from returning back to his post.

Your Excellency sees by what I write in my joint-letter, that her Majesty thinks fit to place me in the southern province. So that after Mr. Secretary Bromley's return from the country, whither he is going tomorrow, for some few days, the direct and
open

open correspondence with you will be in his hands. The private intercourse of friendship, I flatter myself, my Lord, you will allow me to keep up. Whatever province I act in, whatever situation fortune or my own choice throw me into, you really have not (I will, on this occasion, assume) in the world, a more sincere and affectionate friend than myself; and whenever you consider the tenour of my conduct, you will do me that justice. Adieu, my dear Lord, preserve me in your good graces, and depend on me as

Your ever faithful, &c.

B.

To Mr. Breton.

DEAR SIR,

Whitehall, August 19th, 1713.

I FOUND, by your last letter, and by one of a fresher date from your secretary, that you are ill, for which, give me leave to assure you, that I am most heartily concerned, and that if I was myself in the worst estate, I could not more ardently desire the return of my own health, than I do that of my friend.

VOL. IV.

R

You

You will find by a circular, that the Earl of Dartmouth being made Privy Seal, and Mr. Bromley coming to be Secretary of State, the Queen has thought fit that I should remove to the southern province ; your public and regular correspondence will be thus turned over to another hand, but to such a one as you will be perfectly satisfied with, since greater probity and exactness can no where be found, than Mr. Secretary Bromley is master of. I shall continue to write to you, as I hope you will do to me.

Though the state of the affairs of Europe, which still continue ruffled, notwithstanding all that has been done to calm them, and though the characters of the parties concerned in the Northern war, have hitherto retarded all measures of accommodation of those troubles, yet necessity will, one way or other, soon beget a negociation, and especially if a treaty is renewed, as I think it must be, towards the end of the campaign, between the Emperor and France. These circumstances must render your post a very busy one, and consequently make it the more agreeable to you. However, if you find the least uneasiness where you are, communicate

communicate your thoughts to me with all freedom, and I will turn things so as to bring you into the southern province; for I would by no means have you quit the tract of business you are now engaged in; this knowledge, these habits, must at all times be of use, and a court will always be more in want of them, than almost any man who possesses them can be of a court.

Our war is at an end, our army broke, and our military merit will soon be forgot after the trade is ceased. Should we have future occasions of any kind to form armies, those who are most in the way will naturally first return, and take their rise from the state they may at that time be in, not from the condition they were at the determination of the war we are now got out of. I write to you what I turn in my thoughts, what I should think to be prudent in my own case, and what appears to me a wise view for a man of honour and spirit to pursue, who desires to make a figure in the world, and to carry on the service of his country.

I must not omit to tell you a piece of news, which all of us, who are employed by the Queen, have reason to be glad of: the

money given by Parliament, for paying the Queen's debts, is going to be raised, and the establishment to be so settled as to admit of no exceedings, and consequently so as to enable her Majesty punctually to pay her servants for the future. Adieu, dear Breton; I am, from the bottom of my soul, what I ever will be till death, and if possible afterwards, your most

Sincere, affectionate friend, &c.

B.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, August 20, 1713.

HAVING this moment received from my Lord Treasurer the letter which accompanies this to your Grace, I dispatch a courier, who will, I hope, not go far before he meets you.

I received the honour of your last letter, and the passage with which you entrusted the Abbé Gaultier. Your Grace is, I hope, assured, that nothing can make me take any measures separate from you, and those friends with whom I am now embarked. I say
no

no more, because I please myself with the thoughts of kissing your Grace's hands in so few days.

My Lord Treasurer tells me, that he gives your Grace an account of her Majesty's designs with respect to your Grace yourself, and with the alterations she has lately made among her servants. I have, therefore, no more to do, but to wish your Grace a speedy and agreeable passage, and to assure you I am, with all possible respect, my Lord, &c.

B.

To Mr. Gilligan.

S I R,

Whitehall *, August 25th, 1713.

I SHALL not be able to come to town this week, and therefore find myself obliged to give you the trouble of this letter. It begins to be high time that my Lords the Ambassadors in Holland should receive her Majesty's instructions; those from the king of Spain to his Ministers being arrived at Utrecht, a good while since, for settling and

* This letter, though dated Whitehall, appears, from its contents, to have been written at Windsor.

perfecting the draught of our treaty of commerce with Spain, in due form. I am, therefore, to desire, that you would, if possible, by Thursday, or by Friday next, finish, in English, the substance of all such articles as you judge necessary to stand, and to be insisted upon, together with observations on the differences which have arisen, or which may arise in negotiating the several points contained in them; to this I think it will be proper to add your remarks on the greater or less consequence of the articles refused by the Spaniards, or laid aside by us. When you shall have done this, you will please to consult and agree with my Lord Guildford, and such of the Commissioners of Trade as may be in town, at least on the general scheme, reserving such particulars, either of fact, or of argument, as you shall judge proper to be kept secret, till you see me. I could very much wish, that you would, on Friday, take the trouble of coming down hither; in which case I should be able to take the Queen's final pleasure, to draw the instructions thereupon, and to dispatch them the next day, by a courier, to Utrecht. I write to my Lord Guildford

I in

in general terms, about this work, without taking any notice of my letter to you.

I am, &c.

B.

A Monsieur le Comte de Maffei.

MONSIEUR,

Du Château de Windsor, ce 26me Août, 1713.

JE viens de faire à la Reine la lecture de la lettre de son Altesse Royale, aussi-bien que de celle que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire. Vous connoissez si parfaitement les sentimens de sa Majesté, & la résolution qu'elle a prise à l'égard du procédé très-extraordinaire (pour ne rien dire de pis) de la Cour d'Espagne, au sujet du traité, conclu en dernier lieu à Utrecht, avec son Altesse Royale, qu'il n'est pas nécessaire que je m'étende là-dessus. Il suffira donc que je vous dise que la Reine goûte fort le dessein de votre maître, qu'il prenne la possession réelle de la Sicile, & qu'il laisse à nous autres le soin de gronder les Espagnols, en attendant qu'il soit en état quand il ne craindra plus les longueurs de parler sur un autre ton, qu'il ne doit faire dans la situation présente.

R 4

J'écrirai

J'écrirai de nouveau, & en France, & en Espagne, & à Utrecht. Le secret que son Altesse Royale demande sera inviolablement gardé. Vous ferez, s'il vous plaît, mes complimens au Marquis de Trivié * & vous aurez la bonté de le prévenir en ma faveur. La Reine lui donnera son audience le Lundi prochain, devant le dîner ; j'espère que vous le menerez manger la soupe chez moi. Je me flatte que vous ferez contente de la manière dont j'ai dressé vos lettres de récréance.

Je suis, &c.

B.

A Monsieur le Comte de Maffei.

Du Château de Windsor, ce 28^{me} Août, 1713.

JE viens, Monsieur, dans ce moment de recevoir la lettre, que vous m'avez fait hier l'honneur de m'écrire. Messieurs les Plénipotentiaires de la Reine, qui sont en Hollande, seront instruits de la manière que vous le souhaitez. Vous avez très-bien fait de ne rien déguiser à my Lord Peterborough. Il est nécessaire qu'il soit au fait de tout ce qui regarde les intérêts de son Altesse Royale,

* Ambassador from the Duke of Savoy, to succeed Maffei.

puisqu'il est destiné par la Reine pour l'ambassade auprès de votre maître. Je suis, &c.

B.

A Monsieur le Comte de Maffei.

Du Château de Windsor, ce 1^{me} Septembre, 1713.

LES lettres que j'ai reçu d'Hollande, pendant que nous dînâmes ensemble, m'apportoient à-peu-près les mêmes choses que le Marquis de Bourg vous écrit. En vérité, Monsieur, il n'est pas permis d'en user, comme la Cour de Madrid vient de faire, mais il faut dissimuler notre ressentiment pour le faire éclater plus effacement en tems & lieu. La Reine suivra le concert que je vous ai proposé hier. J'écris à Utrecht, & par tout ailleurs, que la Reine se croira justifiée, après les démarches récentes de la Cour d'Espagne, en prenant la précaution de ne point échanger ses ratifications, jusques à ce qu'elle voit son Altesse Royale dans la possession actuelle de la Sicile. Je ne parle plus un mot du vieux ni du nouveau traité ; au contraire, je laisse à croire à Messieurs les Espagnols que la Reine ne regarde que l'avenir. Assurez hardiment votre maître, qu'il peut compter sur toute

toute la bonne volonté & toute la fermeté possible de ce côté-ci. Vous savez, Monsieur, que nous ne manquerons ni de l'une ni de l'autre.

Je vous envoie la copie de votre lettre de créance, l'original sera envoyé à Monsieur le Baron Péronne Vendredi prochain, avec des lettres de cachet, tant pour son Altesse Royale que pour Madame la Duchesse & Madame Royale. Comme je n'ai point pu trouver dans le bureau du département du Sud ni vos lettres de créance, ni les lettres que Madame la Duchesse et Madame Royale auront apparemment, écrit à la Reine dans ce tems-là, j'ai été obligé de dresser la première sur celle de créance, et sa Majesté a voulu là-dedans vous rendre la justice que vous méritez. Les lettres de cachet que vous recevrez, seront des réponses à celles que Monsieur de Trivié a apporté. J'ai fait de la meilleure grâce que j'ai pu, vos compliments à la Reine, qui vous souhaite toute sorte de bonheur. Je ne manquerai pas de vous envoyer une lettre que je prendrai la liberté d'écrire à son Altesse Royale, pour la remercier des bontés qu'elle a bien voulu avoir pour moi, et pour l'affurer du respectueux

tueux attachement avec lequel je ferai toute ma vie dévoué à son service.

Ayez, s'il vous plaît, la bonté de me faire savoir si vous souhaitez, que dans les lettres de cachet, qui doivent être écrites demain, la Reine se serve du style Royal, celle de reconnaissance, ayant été faite & dattée, avant que nous reçumes les nouvelles de l'échange de vos ratifications, est dans le vieux style.

Adieu, mon cher Comte, conservez-moi votre précieuse amitié, & soyez assuré que, parmi tous les changemens & caprices de la fortune, auxquels un Ministre Anglois est exposé, rien ne sera capable d'altérer cette estime parfaite avec laquelle je ferai, &c.

B.

To Mr. Prior.

Windfor Castle, September 1st, 1713.

I WRITE this private letter to you, my good friend, to explain a passage in my public dispatch.

You know in how saucy a manner we suffered ourselves to be used at the latter end of the last Session, by Halifax, Cooper, and others, who had neither spirit nor skill to
work

work through a negociation like ours, and who yet had the front to object, even to the best part of the treaty of commerce. Among other things which they laid hold of, partly because they did not themselves know what they debated upon, and partly from a desire to ask for whatever might perplex and delay, they took notice that the ninth article mentioned a rule, *normam tunc temporis præscriptam* (I write on my memory) which was to take place in those provinces, where the tarif of 1664 had not formerly, and was not now to operate. When this was once or twice mentioned, though I was in the house, I neglected either explaining it or giving them any answer, out of pure contempt. In private discourse, I told several of them the true state of the case, that the tarif of 1664 having raised the impositions to a tolerable proportion, and subsequent tariffs to an intolerable degree, it was necessary to stipulate the revocation of all these posterior books of rates, and the reduction of all duties to the standard of 1664; but that neither we, nor the Dutch, nor any other people, had ever thought it necessary to say any thing more, than what is said in the treaty about those

those provinces, which are not affected by these several tariffs, since it is notorious that in them the same duties as were levied in the year 1664, have been ever since continued, without any alteration, and that this establishment has remained so long unmolested, that I durst say, no minister, who ever treated with France, had ever thought it worth his while to examine into the particulars, or to collect an entire state from the number of volumes which must be extracted, because this would be nothing more than to spend time, and take immense pains, to prove what no man living disputes. But, when I was out of the House, the question was again asked, complaints were made that it had received no answer, and Lord Guildford was forced to say, in the name of his board *, that such an account as they desired should be prepared for them. Employ yourself, therefore, dear Matt, to have a state of the duties payable in the several provinces, where the tariff of 1664 does not operate, got ready. You know, that in our country, it is not enough to do well, and to be able to reply, before impartial judges, to reasonable questions: we must be ready to answer the

* Of trade.

most absurd queries, that malice can invent, or ignorance put

Lord Treasurer is not yet returned from Wimble, but we expect him hourly ; and I take it for granted, that his son is by this time wedded *. He has established his family now beyond what he could expect, and I am heartily rejoiced at it : let him establish the Queen's administration on a sure and lasting principle, and I think I have virtue enough to acquit him of any reward I may be thought to deserve ; I could take the trouble of contributing to such a work, as full and ample recompence. Adieu, dear Matt, ever the same,

B.

To the Bishop of London†.

MY LORD,

Windfor Castle, September 11th, 1713.

I MUST not acknowledge the honour of your Excellency's private letter, till I have had that of obeying the Queen's commands,

* To the daughter of the Duke of Newcastle.

† An official letter, announcing, in form, his translation to the see of London.

who

who directs me to acquaint your Excellency, that she is determined to translate you to the see of London, not only as a testimony of the great satisfaction which she has in all the signal services you have rendered her in the course of this difficult negociation, but also because her Majesty judged, that your Excellency would have in this station larger opportunities of employing those talents, which God has given you, to promote, what she has above all things at heart, the good of the Church of England, and the advancement of the Protestant interest abroad. The Queen, therefore, hopes, my Lord, that your Excellency will receive this mark of her esteem as she intends it; and that you will be persuaded, as her Majesty is, that when you return from the Congress, which you will have orders very speedily to do, you cannot serve God and the Queen any where so eminently, as in that church to the care of which your Excellency is now elected.

I must attribute your favourable expressions, which you are pleased to use of me, to the indulgence of your own nature, and think myself happy that I am judged of by one whose charity is sufficient to allow
for

for the many defects which his penetration must have discovered. Add to all your favours, my Lord, the justice of being convinced that I have the truest reverence for your sacred, and the most unfeigned respect for your personal, character, that any man can have, who professes himself, as I do, my Lord, your Excellency's, &c.

B. *

* The following paper was found among the Bolingbroke MSS.

Short Heads, from the Bishop of London, of the Negotiations at Utrecht.

“ Her Majesty's Ministers for the Congress at Utrecht, were arrived there by the 17th of January, N.S. 1712; two of the Plenipotentiaries of the States-General came the day after, and were followed, the 19th, by those of France: the other Ministers of the States were not all arrived till the beginning of February.—The Marquis del Bourg, Minister of Savoy, came the 20th. The 29th the first general conference was held, at the Town-house, between all the Ministers of the Allies, upon the peace, and those of France. February the 3rd, Count Metternich, one of the Plenipotentiaries of Prussia, arrived. The 9th, Count Sinzendorf and Mr. Cronbruch, two of the Imperialists, came. The 11th, the French, at a general conference, delivered in their offers, in writing, to all the allies, which they proposed to have done sooner, but at the desire of the latter, it was deferred, to give to the absent Ministers time to repair to the Congress.

“ The 12th, Count Tarouca, one of the Ministers of Portugal, and Count Maffei of Savoy, appeared for the first time at the conferences. The 5th of March, the allies gave in their demands to the French Ministers; the Imperial Minister having before declared he could not be ready at a shorter term, being under a necessity of receiving fresh orders from Vienna. At a conference held the 9th, it was proposed by the Ministers of France, and agreed by those of the Allies, that they should return a specific answer in three weeks. The 30th, at another general conference, the Plenipotentiaries of France declared, that

To the Bishop of London.

MY LORD,

Windfor Castle, September 2d, 1713.

IT is late at night, and the messenger is going, but I must take time to return your
Excellency

that as propositions had already been given on both sides in writing, they were now ready to proceed in the negociation, by debating with the several Allies, agreeably to the method used in former Congresses. The Ministers of the Allies having retired into another apartment, and consulted among themselves, returned, and acquainted those of France, that they were in expectation to have received an answer in writing from them, which they thought the French were obliged to, and therefore desired them to answer that expectation. The Marshal d'Uxelles replied, that if they were under that obligation, they must make it good, if not, the Allies had no right to press it, and therefore desired the minutes of the protocol might be read, to show they were not so obliged, no mention being made of an answer to be returned by them in writing. It was urged on the other side, that it was a natural method, that to the Allies' specific demands, specific answers should be returned. The French Plenipotentiaries replied, that both sides having already explained themselves in writing, it was agreeable to the method of all negociations to proceed to debate matters, and that in such debate specific answers would occur. The determination was referred to the next general conference. The day following, the Ministers of the Allies met to deliberate upon the answer to be returned. The Imperialists moved, that a written answer should be insisted on, and most of the other Ministers were of the same opinion. Those of her Majesty, thought it more proper to go the shortest way to work, and begin them without loss of time, in the method they must of necessity come to at last; it being certain, whatever could be writ would be only preparatory to verbal debates, they were earnestly pressed to concur in the sentiment of the rest, and therefore that no marks of disagreement might appear, they finally consented to an instance, which was accordingly made, the 2d of April, to the French Ministers, and of which the purport was, that they (the Ministers of the Allies) had already

Excellency my most humble thanks for the honour of your letter of the 8th, N.S. and for

ready told them they continued in their expectation of having an answer in writing; and that they had since that again deliberated upon it, and were still of the same opinion, and consequently insisted upon an answer in writing. The Ministers of France still persisted in their refusal. Those of the Allies did not meet again on that subject till the 5th, in which interval Count Sinzendorf had been at the Hague, where the resolution was taken to carry things to extremity; that is, not to treat with the Ministers of the Most Christian King, unless they gave an answer in writing, and orders were accordingly sent by the States to their Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht, to act in conformity; this being foreseen, care was taken to prevent it, which was done by a declaration the French Ministers made (the 6th) after those of the Allies had earnestly insisted, for the third time, for an answer in writing, that their instructions allowed them to go no farther than they had offered, and all they could do was to write to the King their master, to know his pleasure. The Allies had nothing to say against this, and were so little prepared for such a declaration, that they did not think of setting a time. May 2d, Baron Bothmar appeared for the first time in the assembly of the Allies; the above-mentioned obstructions retarded all proceedings till August following: in all which time no motion was made on the part of the Allies, for an answer from the French; though at the same time, the Imperialists were pushing to get the Congress broke, or at least her Majesty's Ministers excluded, as was assured.—In August, they, at the instance of the Imperialists and Dutch, had several conferences with them and the French Ministers, about the manner of resuming the general conferences; several expedients were proposed for that end, but the Imperial, French, and Dutch Plenipotentiaries could not agree to join in any one method; till the quarrel between Monsieur Mesnager and Count Rechteren, which began the 18th of August, became a new obstruction.

“ The 2nd of September, the Ministers of France received orders thereupon, to desire those of her Majesty to acquaint the States-General, that the King their master expected the States should disavow the said Count, and remove him from the Congress; and that satisfaction for the affront should precede any farther negotiation with them; which their Excellencies accordingly did. The latter end of September, the States desired her

for the confidence you are so good and so just
as to place in me. I have been again with
the

her Majesty's Ministers to deliver to those of France, their offers of satisfaction, which the latter found to fall so much short of the terms required by his Most Christian Majesty, that the most they could be brought to do, was to transmit a copy of them to their Court. Upon the return of the courier, they informed the Ministers of the States, that the offers of their Principals were not sufficient, and that the King their master insisted on his first demand of satisfaction.

“ This difficulty could not be overcome till the 30th of January, N.S. 1712-13, when three of the Ministers of the States, pursuant to the orders they received from the Hague, went to the Marshal d'Uxelles' house, and made the declaration required by those of France. This obstruction, which, together with the former, had so long retarded the negociation, being at last removed, the Ministers of the Allies made no farther difficulties to go on with the treaty, in the method her Majesty's Ministers had advised, ten months before; and as all the rest, so those of the Emperor also, showed an inclination to promote the treaty, and, with the assistance of her Majesty's Ministers, as all the rest of the Allies did, held several conferences with those of France, in order to adjust their respective interests. This method succeeded to that degree, that in two months after the negociation was resumed, all the parties in the war made their peace with France, except the Emperor and Empire; whose Ministers, nevertheless, had brought things so near, that upon supposition that the Imperialists would have stood to their former concessions, at the last meeting they had with the French, in the presence of her Majesty's Ministers, May the 15th, there only remained a difference between them, in reference to the marquisate of Burgaw, which was estimated to be of the yearly value of about 12,000 crowns. It was in this state that the said negociation was left by the last of the Imperial Ministers, Monsieur Kirchner, who quitted Utrecht two days after. These obstructions, which delayed the peace with France, had also their effect on that with Spain, which was rendered yet more tedious by the refusing of passports to the Ministers of that Crown, about fourteen months after the Congress was begun; so that the first Spanish Plenipotentiary, the Duke d'Osuna, came not to Utrecht, till the 19th of April, N.S. 1713, and his colleague, the Marquis de Monteleon, did not arrive till June following,

the Queen, on your Excellency's subject, and I do assure you, that the reason which has induced her Majesty to make this alteration in your circumstances is this, and no other: she judges that she can find no person so capable to do service to the church and state, as your Excellency, at the head of the diocese of London, Dean of her chapel, carrying on the correspondence with the Protestants abroad, and keeping your seat in the Cabinet Council. That this alteration is made, in this point of time, is owing to the late Bishop's dying as he did. We imagine here, that there can be no difficulty, as to your rank; your Excellency was sworn a Privy Counsellor, as Lord Privy Seal; your ceasing to be the latter, makes no alteration as to the former; and this rule seems equally applicable to the rank of Plenipotentiary. Her Majesty commands me to say this is her sense; and that she will not suffer you to

yet as all the essentials of the treaty of peace had been previously prepared and settled, it was perfected and signed in form, the 13th of July, N.S.

"The treaty of commerce needed some time; the Spanish Ministers thinking themselves obliged to make several applications to their Court, each of which took up five or six weeks, in order to clear some doubts that arose in wording the articles; and accordingly it was not finished and signed till the 9th of December, N.S. 1713."

stand

stand abroad in any other degree, than what you have hitherto done. If, from difficulties which may be started where you are, it appears necessary, her Majesty will, I am confident, either send a new commission, wherein you shall be first named, or recal you. Though I am removed to another province, I pique myself on settling this matter to your Excellency's satisfaction, and therefore desire your farther commands may be laid on, my Lord, your Excellency's, &c.

B.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

Windfor-Castle, September 2d, 1713.

AS I mean nothing but what is kind and respectful to your Excellency, so I am extremely glad that you are pleased to understand me as I mean. My dear Lord, we live in difficult times, and the characters of the persons we have to deal with, can in no times be expected to prove as we could wish; from the first of these truths, I deduce the necessity of keeping united, and fanning that common zeal, which has hi-

thereto burnt in all our breasts; from the last I would argue, that as it is not right always to trust, so neither is it right always to distrust, upon appearances. Was I in the reach of explaining myself by word of mouth, I could convince you, that this doctrine is found in general, and in particular in our country at this time; at least, I am so much persuaded of its being so, that it has made me (I speak to none but my intimate friend) pass over mortifications, which I would have been crucified rather than have endured. As to your doubts concerning the Treasurer, I will help to clear them, but take my advice, and write freely and amicably to him about them. You refine, my dear Lord, about Prior; he is not intended to stay there, and I vow to God, I know of no reason, but the want of you where you are, and after that, at home, why you have not been named for the embassy of France.

Adieu, my Lord, I am, &c.

B.

From

From Mr. Prior.

Paris, September 5th, 1713, N.S.

THE design of this letter should be to tell my Lord Bolingbroke, how glad I am that he is become my provincial; but I will vow that it is amongst the *enarrabilia*, and as our friend Horace has it, *quod nequeo monstrare ac sentio tantum*.

Now how constantly will you have letters from your friend Mat, when his duty and inclination are so much the same. Iberville, who is coming over to you, is as glad of this change as myself; you will find him a talkative, good-natured man. I think the design of his coming to you, is that a chapel may be kept open, till an Ambassador may come; our zeal upon that subject is not so fervent, at least I have neither heard of chaplain, bell, book, or candle; yet it is now a year complete, since you returned to England—*Sed defluit ætas?*

I have so much obligation to the Duke of Shrewsbury, that I have reason to expect more, and I hope he will settle my destiny with Lord Treasurer and yourself. He will tell you his thoughts upon the choice of a

renunciations except that of the *Chambre de Nantes*, which I shall send as soon as Monsieur de Torcy shall have received and given it to me. He continues still the same fair-conditioned and obliging man, and I believe, I shall be able to give you a good account of things of smaller consequence, yet undetermined, as far as they lie in his province; but as to some of our maritime causes, under Pontchartrain's department, and in which a little favour was required, I can say very little to the consolation of the persons concerned, or the praise of the Minister who was to help them; promises everlasting, and continued disappointments: of this I have writ to the Earl of Dartmouth frequently. I must however acknowledge, that some of the causes I have been ordered to solicit, were much upon the scrub. Gilligan has been so kind to Arthburnet, of Rouen, as to help him in the matter of commissions.

Arthburnet's * real zeal for her Majesty's service, and knowledge of mercantile affairs, are sufficient arguments for your Lordship doing him your best offices, and honouring him

* Probably this is Arbuthnot, brother to the physician, and commercial agent, at Rouen.

with

with your favour. I took all the occasions I could of speaking (as indeed I ought to do) of Mr. Hare to the Duke of Shrewsbury, but (as I have already writ) I had no fixed answer: though I never heard it named, let me ask you, my dear Lord, in confidence, will not Mr. Lewis * stand in Mr. Hare's way? For my part, if my fortune were fixed, I would follow the Duke of Shrewsbury *per freta per scopulos*.

Poor Dick Shelton dines sometimes, I think, in York-Buildings; he has done so these three years; but cholic, spleen, and disappointment, hinder peoples digestion. Pray persist in your good opinion of him, my Lord, for he really deserves it from you. I have likewise engaged the Duke of Shrewsbury to put in a kind word in his behalf; for what, in God's name, do we translate our odes, and write our little stuff, but to be able to do our friends some good? and why is a man, who may be useful to the public, and whose heart is with us, to lie fallow till either we have not the power to do him service, or till he

* Lewis had been long in the office of the Secretaries of State; he was Under-secretary to Harley and Lord Dartmouth. —Hare came into office with Bolingbroke.

wants health to enjoy our friendly offices? I wish I had a word from Lord Treasurer; but wishes are but vain, and sighs cannot obtain, as Sir Car Scroop most elegantly expresses it. I expect your commands,

And am ever, my Lord, &c.

M. PRIOR.

I have your cargo now coming from Rouen, having sent thither Monsieur Desmarets's order for the freedom of the customs. How am I to distribute the particulars? the eau de Barbade (I think) for the ladies, and the honey-water for the men.

From Mr. Prior.*

Paris, September 1st-12th, 1713.

THIS is only to acknowledge the favour of your's of the 26th past, and to tell you, that I expect your future commands, as you were pleased to say I should.

I am very glad to find by the Duke of Shrewsbury's letter, that he found all things as he could wish at Windsor; I would have

* Private.

him

him pleased, for he always is most so with that which is best for the public; and you know how much he deserves, better than I can tell you.

As I have hinted to him, I cannot but say to you, that I found myself a good deal mortified, in the changes that have been lately made, particular in the 'Chequer, without one word of your friend Matt; and more because a good deal has been writ in England, printed from Holland, and talked at this Court upon that subject. As to my own private affairs, considered as such, pass: I have (may be) more than I deserve, though I have worked very hard here, and done my best; but as those affairs relate to the service, I think it better that I should be recalled, before these people find I am neglected at home. This I write to my dear Lord Bolingbroke, and I believe, he will find the Duke of Shrewsbury in the same sentiment.

Adieu, my Lord, all honour, satisfaction, and pleasure, to you for ever, is the wish and prayer of the splenetic, but,

Your's, ever,

MATT.

Au

Au Roi de Sicile.*

SIRE,

Du Château de Windsor, ce 7^{me} Septembre, V.S. 1713.

LA justice que votre Majesté veut bien faire aux sentimens de mon cœur, & la manière gracieuse, dont elle a la bonté de payer les petits services, que j'ai été en état de lui rendre, au delà de tout ce qu'ils méritent, me pénètrent de reconnoissance, & me comblent de gloire. J'ai toujours admiré, avec le respect que je dois, ces grandes qualités qui attachent votre Majesté à la Reine ma maîtresse, encore plus que les liens du sang ; & j'ai toujours cru que les secondes marques de mon zèle & de mon dévouement étoient dûes à votre Majesté, c'est une maxime que je conserverai toute ma vie, heureux si, en sacrifiant cette vie même, je pourrois d'autant mieux faire paroître combien je suis soumis à ses ordres, quelle haute vénération j'ai pour sa personne sacrée, & jusques où doit aller la reconnoissance d'un homme qui a eu le bonheur de mériter son approbation.

Je suis, avec l'attachement le plus par-

* Late Duke of Savoy.

fait,

fait, & le respect le plus profond, Sire, de
votre Majesté le très humble, très fidelle,
& très obeissant serviteur.

B.

A Monsieur le Marquis de Trivié.

MONSIEUR,

Du Château de Windsor, ce 8me Septembre, V.S. 1713.

LES lettres de cachet de la Reine, pour
le Roi & la Reine de Sicile, & pour Madame
Royale, vous auront été rendues par celui de
mes premiers commis, qui se trouve pré-
sentement à Londres; & si vous ne les avez
pas encore envoyées, vous ferez à tems de-
main au matin; puisque le paquet-bot est
arrêté, par mon ordre, jusqu'à l'arrivée de
mes dépêches pour la France, & pour l'Es-
pagne, qui ne pourront être faites que de-
main. J'ai écrit au bureau, afin qu'on vous
avertisse du départ de l'express.

Je viens de recevoir, par un courier du
Roi Catholique, des lettres tant de la Prin-
cesse des Ursins que de l'Ambassadeur de la
Reine. Les dernières sont du 4me de ce
mois, N.S. Elles sont en réponse à celles
que j'avois écrit, sur le premier bruit qui
courût,

courût, de ce que la Cour d'Espagne avoit dessein de faire par rapport à votre traité, avant même que le Comte de Maffei m'avoit parlé sur le sujet, peut-être avant qu'il en fut la moindre chose. Je vois que le ton sur lequel j'avois parlé, par ordre de la Reine, n'a pas manqué de produire son effet. Montéleon viendra incessamment ici pour faire des excuses, & tâcher de contenter la Reine.

Permettez-moi de vous faire une insinuation en passant : les intérêts de la Reine, & du Roi votre maître, seront toujours les mêmes par tout, à ce que j'espère, mais du côté de l'Espagne, ils ne peuvent pas se contredire ; ne fera-t-il pas à propos que les Ministres de nos deux Cours à Madrid soient instruits de s'entendre ?

Excusez, s'il vous plaît, une lettre mal écrite, & encore plus mal digérée, je n'ai pas le tems de la corriger. Je suis, &c.

B.

To Mr. Prior.*

Windfor Castle, September 8th, 1713.

I THANK you, friend Matthew, for your private letter of the 12th of this month, which I received this morning: the promise you speak of, you find already, that I make good to the full, and I doubt you will think me a voluminous correspondent.

It is the same satisfaction to me as to you, that the Duke of Shrewsbury found every thing here as he could wish; I hope he will find every thing in Ireland so too. Certain it is, the sweetness of his temper, the strength of his understanding, and the happiness of his address, will enable him, better than any man I know, to calm the minds of that distracted nation, who, from knowing no distinction but Protestant and Papist, are come to be more madly divided about Whig and Tory, High Church and Low, than even this society of lunatics to which you and I belong.

I say nothing to you as to your private affairs; you can find in no man a more

* Mem. In this place is omitted a letter to Prior, of September 8th, 1713. BOLINGBROKE.

hearty

heartly solicitor than myself; you find in the Duke of Shrewsbury a more powerful one. What Lord Treasurer designs for you, I know not; but I perceive the Duke thinks it will be to your entire satisfaction: that it may prove so, I wish from the bottom of my heart.

Your letter of the 5th, had almost slipped me; and I would not forget to acknowledge any one, since each deserves all the acknowledgment I can make.

You are so taken up with modern ladies, that you forget old authors. It is our friend Tully, and not our friend Horace, who speaks of things which he says *exprimere* (not *monstrare*) *nequeo, & sentio tantum*.

There is another passage which some part of your letter puts me in mind of; it is either in an epistle or satire of Horace:

Rusticus expectat num defluit amnis, at ille
Labitur & labetur in omne volubilis ævum.

Some sort of expectations resemble a good deal to this of the country put.

Madame de Croissy, Madame de Torcy, and Madame de Noailles, are to share the honey-water, sack, and eau de Barbade;

but I believe a larger proportion of the two last should go to Monsieur de Torcy ; but do as you please. I protest to you, I contributed to make the partition of Europe without being so much at a loss, as I should be to make that of this cargo.—May Madame Feriole not have some ?

Our friend Jonathan * is, I hear, returned from Ireland, where he has had no good health. You will join with me, in thinking he has done well to return, since I am sure you will join with me, in thinking that his health is of more value, than the good order of all the musty chapters in any kingdom.

Adieu ; I am, and ever will be, your's,

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Earl of Jersey.

MY DEAR DOCTOR,

Windfor Castle, September 7th, 1713.

I AM your friend from the bottom of my heart, and therefore not only may, but ought to lay that heart open to your view, especially in an affair of so great conse-

* Swift, the new Dean of St. Patrick's.

quence

quence as the first step which you take on the stage of business; I love you so well, that I would have you not only rise in the world, but rise in a manner suitable to those qualities which you are master of; I would have you distinguished in the setting-out, as I am sure you will distinguish yourself in the progress, from the illiterate crew of fops, who disgrace the names they wear: I would have you enter the Queen's service, not because you are related to, or intimate with, those in power, but because you are wanted in it; and therefore I own to you, that whenever I have mentioned you, I have done it on no other foot but this, that your talents were not to be lost or unemployed, and that, in the midst of this dearth of capacity, which is but too apparent among the nobility, the wisest measure the Queen could pursue was, to call forth those few who have genius, to the present and future service of their country. On this foundation, therefore, all I said to George * was built; and I could have thrown you into a scene, so difficult in appearance, and, at the same time, so easy to one of your capacity,

* Probably, Bolingbroke's brother.

with the helps which I would have entrusted to you, that you would have raised a reputation at once; but your private circumstances are an unanswerable objection, and I am now working to bring my scheme to them, since they will not come to it. You have your mortifications before you come to Court, and, believe me, you will have them when you are there.—You will see the fawning, tell-tale rascal carested, and detraction from the merit of others made equivalent to real merit in himself;—you will see more a great deal, than I intend to enumerate; and what then? Must, therefore, a good man not come to Court, nor step forward in the service of his country?—Must he throw himself into retreat or opposition? No, my dear Doctor; you shall do neither: you are too bright for the former, and too honest, if you knew all I could have the honour of telling you, for the latter. There seems to be no inclination to live well with you wanting; if I believed otherwise, I would be the first to tell you of it. We have not the best knack in the world, either at giving our employments, with a good grace, or ~~sitting~~ sitting them well: this being a misfortune, which

which runs through the whole tenour of our conduct, you ought to make no particular application to yourself. Take my advice, and do not laugh at me for presuming to give it you. Fight, dear Doctor, against your spleen; I know how fast that sly enemy will creep into the body and mind of a man, and what cursed work he will make when he is there. You, who can read and think (which I have known very few people in my life that could, though every creature is faucy enough to pretend to do both) have it in your power to drive this fiend from you, and at the same time to prepare to break from your retreat with double lustre; this will, I hope, soon be the case. I hope so, for many reasons; and amongst the rest, which you will allow to be very natural, for my own sake; there being nothing I should be better pleased with, than being joined in the service with one for whom I have all the sentiments of a most affectionate kinsman, a most sincere friend, and a most obedient servant. Adieu, dear Doctor.

To the Lord Chancellor of Ireland.*

MY LORD,

Windfor Castle, September 14th, 1713.

THE respect and friendship which I have for your Lordship, will not allow me to let this express go, without carrying you my compliments. When the Queen commanded me to enter on the province which the Earl of Dartmouth had served in, I reflected with pleasure that I should have to do with Ireland, and consequently with your Lordship; and since the course of business has brought me nearer to you, I hope, my Lord, that you will, without any ceremony, lay your commands on me, whenever you judge I can be of use either to your Lordship or the public. Whenever you think fit to do me this honour, your Lordship will find that among other ties which attach me to your service, I am bound by that which was formerly looked on as the strongest of all—*eadem sentire de republica*. As you will hear from my Lord Chamberlain himself, that her Majesty was pleased last night to declare his Grace, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, I shall only say upon that head, that

* Sir Constantine Phipps.

I am

I am very much deceived, if any man has a greater sense of your Lordship's merit, or a more earnest desire to live in the most intimate correspondence with you, than his Grace carries over with him. I am, &c.

B. *

A Madame la Princesse des Ursins.

MADAME,

Du Château de Windsor, ce 16me Septembre, 1713.

JE me donne l'honneur de répondre aux deux lettres, que votre Altesse a bien voulu m'écrire du 2me & du 27me du mois passé, N.S. & je dois lui avouer ingénument, que je me sens fort embarrassé lorsqu'il s'agit d'exprimer la joie & la reconnoissance dont j'ai été pénétré en les lisant. Les maximes sur lesquelles votre Altesse règle & son raisonnement & sa conduite, sont les seules véritables, &, j'ose dire, les seules qui puissent dissiper les obstacles qui subsistent encore à la conclusion de la paix générale.

En suivant les principes sur lesquels toutes nos négociations ont été jusques à présent appuyées, nous parviendrons immanquable-

* Mem. In this place is omitted a letter to Duke d'Aumont, of September 15th. BOLINGBROKE.

ment à notre grand but. En formant de nouveaux projets, qui dérangent le vieux système, nous nous exposons à renverser le tout. Si l'on trouve que la Reine insiste sur certains points, plus qu'il ne convient aux intérêts de sa Majesté Catholique, ayez, Madame, la bonté de réfléchir, & de faire réfléchir aux autres, dans quelle situation étoient les affaires de l'Europe lorsque la Reine a pris les engagements, en vertu desquels sa Majesté se trouve présentement obligée de parler & d'agir ; combien les engagements, dont je parle, étoient nécessaires pour disposer des esprits irrités par une longue guerre, & enflés par plusieurs succès, à des sentimens pacifiques ; & quelle peu de comparaison il y a entre le rétablissement du repos publique, & le plus ou le moins qui reste à être réglé.

Monfieur de Lexington informera votre Altesse que le sentiment de la Reine a été contre le voyage du Marquis de Monteleon. Sa Majesté auroit vu, avec grand plaisir, revenir auprès d'elle un Ministre qu'elle estime beaucoup, & qui a eu le bonheur de mériter sa confiance : mais quand elle a fait réflexion sur les jalousies, qu'un tel voyage, dans

dans la crise présente, pourroit causer, elle a cru devoir préférer les intérêts de sa Majesté Catholique à sa propre satisfaction.

La Reine, Madame, m'a chargé de renouveler à votre Altesse les assurances, qu'elle soutiendra ses prétentions à l'avenir comme elle a fait par le passé; & qu'elle veut regarder votre Altesse comme un de ces liens, qui doivent cimenter cette étroite union, qu'elle souhaite d'entretenir, pendant toute sa vie, avec leurs Majestés Catholiques.

La complaisance que le Roi veut bien avoir pour la Reine, dans l'affaire du Prince de la Ricchia, touche sa Majesté très sensiblement; plus ce sujet a été coupable, plus sont-elles grandes la clémence du Roi & l'obligation de la Reine.

Votre Altesse me permettra, avant que de finir cette lettre, de lui marquer le plaisir très sensible que j'ai, en lisant tout ce qu'elle a eu la bonté de m'écrire sur le sujet du Comte de Montijo.

Comme le mariage est peut-être la plus importante action de la vie de l'homme, mon ami ne pouvoit mieux faire que de remettre à votre Altesse le choix de sa femme; c'est
une

une nouvelle preuve qu'il donne de son bon esprit & une nouvelle raison pour augmenter, s'il est possible, l'estime & la tendresse, que j'ai conçu pour lui, pendant le séjour qu'il fit dans ce pays. Au reste, je dois demander pardon à votre Altesse de la longueur de ma lettre, & la supplier d'être persuadée qu'on ne peut être avec un plus profond respect, Madame, de votre Altesse le très humble, &c.

B.

Je ne dois pas oublier de rendre à votre Altesse mes très humbles remerciemens de toutes les bontés qu'elle a pour Monsieur le Comte de Lecheraine.

To Mr. Prior.

September 15th, 1713.

ALLOW me to add something in private to my public dispatch. I promise you, that, contrary to custom, my comment shall be much shorter than the text. I think then, that Monsieur de Torcy might be made to feel, how greatly they will strengthen our hands, and stun that rampant faction, which plagues both us and them, if, when Hol-

land attempts so apparently to distress us, in a most material article of our trade, France steps in to our relief.

The time of obtaining the propriety and sovereignty of Dunkirk, without such equivalents as the Queen cannot give, is, I fear, lost; but I fancy, the King might, for the present, agree to leave this place undemolished in the Queen's hands, till the trade of the Spanish Netherlands is settled, to the satisfaction of Great Britain and France; and particularly till her Majesty's demands, relating to Ostend, are granted.

A particular convention may be made to this effect, and the stipulation for the demolition may be renewed in the strongest terms. This would answer our end, and I do not perceive that the French have any thing to fear. Dunkirk was given up as a pledge, under the terms of a solemn treaty, for another purpose. There will be a better security for it than there was at first, and as good an one as there is now, and the delay of this demolition can be of no prejudice to the King, who receives the revenue, uses the harbour, and procures to his subjects the advantage of this intermediate time, for
carrying

carrying on their commerce, and for taking their measures to remove, with less loss, whenever the place shall be demolished. I have no orders to mention this to you, but my notion is, that he who is most fully instructed, is most likely to succeed. You will not start any such notion, but you will judge by this land-mark, how much farther, than we expect, the French are likely to go, or how much short they will fall of what we desire.

The substance of what is writ in my other letter, I opened to the Duke d'Aumont, but I doubt his Grace will not make it very intelligible to his court.

Gaultier has teased me to death, to write a letter to Monsieur Pontchartrain, about releasing a British ship taken during the suspension. I suspect the good Abbot stock-jobs his ministry, and besides I do not care to ask a favour of a Minister of another Court, especially of such an one as Pontchartrain. However, having played the fool, and writ the letter, I desire, if you see too much stress laid upon it, and the obligation to me over-rated, that you would take an opportunity to drop, that I writ for no reason, but because

cause the Duke d'Aumont told me he did, and because Gaultier interested himself for the people concerned.

Adieu, my good friend, I am what I ever will be, your sincere and most obedient,

BOLINGBROKE.

A Monsieur le Comte de Montijo.

Du Château de Windsor, ce 16^me Septembre, 1713.

JE répons, mon cher Comte, à vos lettres du 23^me d'Août & du 4^me Septembre, pour lesquelles je me sens obligé au-delà de toute expression. A force de vous estimer & de vous aimer, vos intérêts deviennent les miens. Je prends la même part à votre élévation, que je prendrois au mien propre, & je vous jure, que même dans la disgrâce, si elle devenoit mon fort, votre bonheur me consoleroit. Aimez-moi donc toujours, car en vérité je le mérite de vous. Je vous suis bien obligé de la politesse, que vous avez montré au Comte de Lecheraine, c'est un officier de beaucoup de distinction, & mon vieux camarade.

Que vous me flattez agréablement, mon cher enfant, quand vous me donnez la douce espérance de vous revoir un jour ! Mon
cœur

cœur me dit que cela arrivera. Madame la Princesse des Ursins m'écrit pourtant, que vous voulez qu'elle vous donne une femme, & après le mariage, vous n'avez pas la mine de vouloir courir le monde. Enfin si vous ne venez point en la Grande Bretagne, j'irai en Espagne vous embrasser.

Tous vos amis dans ce pays vous aiment, & vous regrettent également. Wyndham est élevé à la charge de Chancelier des Finances. Et je crois que vous pourrez bien voir un homme, que vous avez connu & goûté, si je ne me trompe, succéder à Lexington. Adieu, mon chère Comte,

Je suis, &c.

B.

A Madame le Duc d'Aumont.

Du Château de Windsor, ce 15^{me} Septembre, 1713.

VOUS recevrez avec cette lettre la réponse que la Reine m'a ordonné de faire, au mémoire que vous m'avez, en dernier lieu, remis. J'écris à Prior sur le sujet, dont j'ai eu l'honneur de vous entretenir, Dimanche, par le courier qui part demain. Les réponses
aux

aux lettres que j'ai écrit touchant les vaisseaux, que vous reclamez, me seront rendu dans un jour ou deux. Je ne manquerai pas de vous les communiquer d'abord. Je vous envoie l'extrait, que vous souhaitez d'avoir, de la lettre que la Princesse des Ursins m'écrit sur le sujet du Prince de la Ricchia. Votre étoffe vous sera infailliblement rendu, & le Chevalier Wyndham se fera un plaisir d'être utile au nommé James, quand il reviendra de son élection. Je passe présentement assez mal mon tems ; j'espère me dédommager pendant les quatre jours, que je dois passer avec vous.

Adieu, mon cher Duc, je suis, & je serai toujours, avec un attachement parfaite, votre, &c.

B.

To the Earl of Orrery.

MY LORD,

Windsor Castle, September, 18th, 1713.

IN expectation of going this week to London, I neglected to write sooner to your Lordship, but finding that my attendance
on

on the Queen will confine me some days longer, I give you the trouble of a letter.

The service your Lordship seemed to expect from me, was to be truly informed upon what foot you stand with my Lord Treasurer, and I have done my best to be able with certainty to tell you.

I think then, that besides the sentiments, which old acquaintance must inspire, my Lord Treasurer has a very just regard for your Lordship, as a man who acts on a principle, whose conduct will be steady, and who is therefore to be depended on ; I think he is contriving to advance your Lordship to another post in the Queen's service, and my opinion is, that you would pursue a wrong measure, if you either asked to retire, out of disgust, or engaged in any separate scheme.

This is my opinion honestly ; did I judge otherwise, I would with the very same frankness speak otherwise to you.

If your Lordship imagines the delay of doing any thing for you, or that coldness and neglect, which I remember you once complained of to me, is not agreeable to
what

what I have the honour to write to you, I can only say, that appearances are not easily to be trusted, either when they flatter or when they displease.

When I have the happiness of seeing your Lordship, I will explain myself farther than I can by letter; in the mean while, you will please to be persuaded, that I am, with very sincere friendship, my Lord,

Your Lordship's, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To Mr. Secretary Bromley.*

SIR,

Windfor Castle, September 18th, 1713.

I HAVE the honour of your letter, of the 17th past, and have spoke to the Queen on the contents of it.

The first observation is so far right, that the Plenipotentiaries have jointly and separately the same power, and therefore, without dispute, the Bishop or the Earl might, by virtue of the commission which now subsists, sign alone; but this will not solve

* Member of Parliament for the University of Oxford, and had been Speaker of the House of Commons.

the knot, for when the treaty of commerce with Spain comes to be signed, the full powers must be entered, at the end thereof, according to form, and in them the precedence, which Strafford will not submit to, is determined. The Queen therefore, thinks the first design in this respect, should be pursued.

The other difficulty appears to her Majesty greater ; if by confirmation, my Lord Chancellor means the royal assent, that has been signed ; but, if the Queen cannot call the Bishop of London by that name, or he sign by it, till he has done homage, or been in her Majesty's presence, then indeed there is a difficulty, both as to the full powers and as to the revocation. In short, if the Queen can with any propriety, style him Bishop of London, she would do so, both in a new distinct commission, and in letters of revocation. But if she cannot, upon which the Queen desires you would again consult Lord Chancellor, then her Majesty would have a new commission sent to Lord Strafford only, and letters of revocation only to the Bishop, in such form as can be used.

I can easily believe Lord Marlborough as
fond

fond as ever of the Vicar-Generalship, but I hardly think he will venture to take a government * upon him, in opposition to a treaty wherein the Queen is a party, and that would be the case, if he took a commission from the Emperor, before the time when, by the barrier, the Ten Provinces are deemed to belong to that Prince.

I send the messenger in haste away, that you may have as early notice as possible, of her Majesty's sense, in the matter above-mentioned. I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To Sir John Jennings †.

SIR,

Windfor Castle, September 18th, 1713.

YOU will find, by my public dispatch, that you have the Queen's leave to come home by land, if you think fit, as soon as the business of Sicily is over.

When you formally writ to me on this

* Of the Spanish Provinces ceded to the Emperor, but this was probably nothing more than the news of the day.

† Commander-in-chief of the naval forces in the Mediterranean.

head, and some other matters, wherein you desired my assistance, I was not negligent to serve you, as far as my power and my situation at that time, when the southern province was under the Earl of Dartmouth, would allow.

I likewise did myself the honour to answer your letters, but finding no mention thereof in yours, I conclude mine were lost.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

*To Mr. Worsley *.*

SIR,

Windfor Castle, September 19th, 1713.

I SHOULD have returned an answer to your letter of the 12th, before now, had I not expected to have been this week in town.

For my own part, nobody can be more sensible than I am of the zeal with which you have hitherto, very unprofitably to yourself, served the Queen; and I can very truly say, that I have done you justice, both to her Majesty and to those who have the honour to be employed by her.

* British Minister appointed for Lisbon.

I should

I should have had too much regard for your fortune and interest, to have named you for the Court of Lisbon, or any other foreign Court, if the Queen's Ministers abroad, were to continue in the same neglected condition, as they have of late years been; but the Queen's not being able to discharge that vast incumbrance of debt, which loaded the civil list, has, on the head of foreign Ministers, as well as other heads, reduced her expence to a certain sum, and that such an one, as she can and will punctually pay, so that you may depend upon the appointments of Envoy-extraordinary regularly, which is infinitely better than those of Ambassador-extraordinary, in the usual method of payment.

Delaval had indeed a warrant for Plenipotentiary's pay, under pretence of treating with the Moors; but as he did not the service, so he neither has received, nor will be allowed to receive, the salary for it.

You will please to prepare for your new scene; and when I come next week to town, I will begin to settle my part of your necessary dispatches. I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, September 20th, 1713.

THE Committee of Council sate till three to-day, and went through the examination of the whole state of the Northern affairs; on which Mr. Secretary Bromley will have the honour to report to your Majesty next Sunday.

The few things which relate to my province, and were to-day dispatched, are minuted for your Majesty's orders. To-morrow, my Lords take under consideration the state of Minorca, and the memorial of business depending with the Court of Spain; the difficulty whereof is, I hope, entirely subdued, by the orders which your Majesty was pleased, some time ago, to give me.

I shall not be able to attend your Majesty, because of this second Committee, till Saturday.

I humbly presume your Majesty would have the Cabinet, as usual, on Sunday.

Lord Bingley, will, I perceive, be ready to go to Spain, if your Majesty thinks fit to command him. I have sent for Colonel Worsley,
who

who will, I suppose, be the same to go to Portugal.

My Lord Treasurer humbly proposes to fill up the blanks in the commission of trade with Mr. Sharp, Sir William Withers, and Mr. Pitts; if your Majesty approves of these persons, I can fill up the warrant accordingly, and the bill is sent down for the royal signature.

The elections require more haste than ordinary, that of Mr. Pitts being for a county, and coming on next week.

My Lord Mar having received the seals from your Majesty, I shall bring down a draught of his constitution for your Majesty's approbation.

The pitching on persons proper to be presented to your Majesty, as commissaries to treat on commerce with those of France, proves harder than we apprehended. I have writ to the Attorney, to know whether such as are elected to Parliament, may be named; if they may, it will facilitate your Majesty's choice, and the service. Mr. Cadagon sent to me last night, and was with me this morning. He arrived on Tuesday; he says, his only business is to take care of his election, and of his fortune on this side the water. He affects

to say, that Lord Marlborough has no thought of coming over, but will continue this winter at Antwerp, Breda, or Liege, as her Grace can best please herself. I find, he intends to ask the Duke of Ormond, to present him to your Majesty. I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

Windfor Castle, September 23rd, 1713.

I PURPOSELY delayed writing to you, till the Queen had taken her final resolution on a matter, which since you lay it so much to heart, I had much rather the Queen's opinion should decide, than mine.

Mr. Secretary Bromley sends, I suppose, by this post, both to your Lordship and my Lord Bishop, an account of the method which her Majesty prescribes for your future proceeding. You will ripen the projects of our treaty of commerce with Spain; and when it comes to be signed, there being but one upon the spot, no dispute can arise concerning precedence, nor no room be left for complaint.

After this, I might think myself discharged
from

from saying a word more, on a subject which I had no hand in creating; but as your Lordship is pleased to address yourself to me, in some sort to appeal to me, and complain of me, I shall speak my mind, very shortly, very plainly, and I hope very reasonably, at least as well as my poor capacity enables me to judge.

In the first place then, my Lord, I wish nothing had been done, to give a pretence for altering the course of things, or disturbing those negociations, on the event whereof so much depends, and which are brought so near a conclusion; nay, I am persuaded, nothing would have been done, could the disputes, which have arisen, have been foreseen. But, my Lord, what has been done? The man who stands first in that commission, by which alone your Lordship has any power to act as a Plenipotentiary in the affairs of peace, has changed his name. Originally, the Bishop was named first, because he was at that time Privy Seal. He is so no longer, it is true; but till that commission is superseded by another, he is first Plenipotentiary, and the act of precedence has no more to do, in this case, than the Land Tax Bill. I could therefore wish, as your Lordship's real friend and servant,
that

that you had taken this affair up with less warmth; there would have been time enough, before you come to sign any instrument jointly, to discuss and determine a point, wherein you thought your honour concerned, and wherein the Queen did not seem aware of any dispute. I believe her Majesty is persuaded that she suffers more than any one else, if in so critical a conjuncture, among people so ready to take hold, and to make their advantage of the least division of her servants, or disturbance in her affairs, a dispute breaks forth between those who are at the head of her business.

It is necessary in answer to your Lordship's letters, that I should say something of myself, and I shall do so, with that truth which, one time or other, your Lordship will be sensible of.

I have used my best endeavours to serve your Lordship, ever since it was in my power, and these endeavours have not been unsuccessful. Had I been as intent on my own interest as I have been in promoting the good of the service, and of my friends, things had not been at present just in the posture that they are. But, my Lord, I can be content to retire

tire a second time, whenever my friends grow tired of me, or the Queen's service requires it; in the same manner as I have done once already, with no other éclat than a reputation earned by hard labour, and with no other profit than the reward of a good conscience.

As to my brother, my Lord, what he is not able to treat, he shall never have my consent to sign; and as long as I serve, he shall rise no faster than he deserves to rise.

I write to your Lordship, what a very cordial friendship dictates, and am not conscious of having judged in your case, otherwise than I should have done in my own; so that I may be mistaken in my opinion, but cannot err in point of sincerity, of which I pray your Lordship to be convinced, and to believe me, with great truth, yours, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Bishop of London.

MY LORD,

Windsor Castle, September 23rd, 1713.

MR. Secretary Bromley writing to you, by the Queen's particular command, and sending your letters of revocation at the same time,
little

little is left for me to say. There had been thought of drawing new and distinct full powers, but it seems, her Majesty was at last pleased to determine, that although, one only was to sign, yet there was no need of a new power.

As it is not in the world enough to create a good opinion, that a man means and acts sincerely, so I think myself obliged to return your Lordship my thanks, for the favourable one you are pleased to entertain of me, and I assure your Lordship you shall on no occasion, have reason to repent of the justice you do me.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, September 24th, 1713.

THE Committee of Council is this moment risen, and have gone through some part of the business before them; the remainder, I hope, they will be able to finish to-morrow, when they have appointed to sit again.

I received

I received an exprefs this morning from Mr. Prior. He fends me a full and fatisfactory answer to what I had writ, on the receipt of the Duke d'Aumont's memorial concerning Placentia, together with a new order for the furrendry of this place, figned by the King, and directed to the officer commanding in it. The King never thought of asking leave for his fubjects to fifh on Newfoundland another year, it was a project of Monsieur de Pontchartrain's, who has done himfelf no good by it; all the King asks, is, that his fubjects may have leave to continue on the ifland, not in the fort, till the feafon of the year permits them to remove. All this being in confequence of your Majesty's former orders, I have already got the Lords of the Admiralty to provide a veffel to carry my difpatches to Colonel Moody, and will fend them, with duplicates of my former, away to Morris. Thus will this neceffary part of your Majesty's fervice be provided for.

I have letters from Lord Lexington, of the 11th of this month, N.S. which bring little, except that the Spaniards make thofe difficulties about fupplying Gibraltar, on the

forefight of which, his Lordship is, by this time, instructed, the letters which I writ by your Majesty's order, having been sent more than a fortnight ago.

He is likewise engaged in some dispute about the former of his credential letters, which I cannot have the honour of stating to your Majesty, till I have examined the office-books.

The draught of the treaty of commerce with Spain, will be ready for the Lords of the Council to-morrow, and for your Majesty on Sunday, when I humbly presume, you would have the Cabinet sit, as usual.

The bills are not yet come from Ireland, but I have sent for the Attorney to attend to-morrow, so that all the forms shall be prepared against their arrival.

My Lord Treasurer has not yet said any thing to me about Mr. Churchill. I shall be careful to obey your Majesty's commands on this head.

I am extracting the clauses which relate to the power of giving commissions, as well out of the Duke of Shrewsbury's patent, as out of former patents, and out of the several commissions granted to your Majesty's

jefty's General. I will bring the whole down with me, for your Majesty's information.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

*From Mr. Prior *.*

Fontainbleau, September 30th, 1713.

I HAVE answered your letter of business, and obeyed your directions, in the manner which I hope will be satisfactory. I believe you think the troops staying, will rather be of advantage to us, than otherwise: we shall be in possession, her Majesty's standard erected, the power in her subjects' hands, and the French to spend their money there, if they have any: the King said upon this occasion, he thought his people and ours may live quietly and friends there, as well as at Dunkirk: Torcy has been very fair and honest in all this business, so has the King, really. Pontchartrain is out of countenance, he endeavoured to find my memorial too haughty; it is as civil, as your orders gave me leave to pen it, and in another phrase, at least, than the Duke d'Aumont's;

* Private.

pass

pass for that, I hope I have done the thing right, and no matter for censure or applause.

Sure you have very little to do, since I find you have time to criticise my quotations; you are a better scholar than I, who denies? but I am better than Pontchartrain, which is still some comfort.

Your cargo remains yet at Paris, untouched; we go thither on Tuesday or Wednesday se'nnight: I shall make the distribution to your satisfaction, as I will always do everything I can. In the mean time, all the parties *intéressés* know it is arrived.

As to my own affairs, I am very sensibly obliged to you, my Lord, for your kind concern, but a little ashamed they have given you so much trouble; however, you must continue, as I see the Duke of Shrewsbury (to whom I am infinitely beholding) does; he writes me word, that Lord Treasure told him, he had something *in petto* for me, that would make an end of all my complainings. He told him what it was, but his Grace has not named it to me; your Lordship will use this hint as your great goodness to me may prompt. If it were settled before the Duke goes to Ireland, it
would

would be, and look, better. Adieu, my dear Lord, all health, honour, and happiness to you.

Your's, ever,

MATT.

Barton bringing you the letters, I spare you the trouble of decyphering, taking it for granted, that he will never part from any packet directed to Lord Bolingbroke, to man, woman, or child, as he expresses it, who has not first knockt out his brains. Pray, my Lord, send him back to me, and help him to some of his arrears; for he is very sober and useful, and in a blue coat trimmed with gold, a hat as large as a hive, and the Queen's arms upon his breast, he makes as good a figure, at the death of a stag, as any one man, and hollows louder than any four. Adieu, my dear Lord Bolingbroke, nobody knows your worth, and values your friendship, more than I.

To Mr. Prior.

DEAR MR. MATTHEW,

Whitehall, September 25th, 1713.

I AM to let you know, that the Queen does not intend your Excellency should continue much longer in France, and my Lord Treasurer will take better care of you, and therefore, that her Majesty thinks herself obliged no longer to defer naming somebody to go to that Court with a character.

Mr Rofs * is declared Envoy-extraordinary, and will be ready to go over when you shall be ordered to return. He is to continue till an Ambassador is sent, and to tell you the truth, we shall be glad not to be put to the difficulty, at last, of finding an Ambassador.

You will give this the best turn in discourse.

Your facetious epistle of the 30th, shall be answered by the Irish favourite.

Adieu, ever yours,

BOLINGBROKE.

* General Charles Rofs; he was, with others, dismissed the service by George I.

To the Earl of Mar.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, September 25th, 1713.

THE Queen has done Mr. Rofs the honour to name him to be her Envoy-extraordinary to the Court of France, the consequence whereof is, that he can be master of very little of his time. I hope, therefore, his interest in his country, nor his election†, will not suffer by his long stay here, by the short stay he must be obliged to make in the North, and, I wish I might add, by his going no farther than Edinburgh.

I know I need not recommend him to your Lordship's favour, nor insinuate to you, that it would have an ill air, if his being advanced in the Queen's service, should not rather secure than hazard his election.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

† For the county of Rofs.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, September 29th, 1713.

IT is now almost four, and the Lords of the Council are but just risen; they have gone through half the Spanish treaty of commerce, and have heard the Commissioners of trade to several points. To-morrow, at eleven, we shall meet again, and, I hope, be able to finish our work, though it be extremely tedious, by two, at which hour Mr. Attorney-General* and Mr. Solicitor-General†, together with the Attorney-General of Ireland, are summoned to attend, in order to refer the Irish Bills, which are this moment arrived. My Lord President will take care to summon the Great Council, pursuant to your Majesty's commands, for Thursday morning.

The Bishop of Rochester‡ came to my office, to let me know that the Archbishop §

* Sir Edward Northey.

† Sir Robert Raymond: Puisne Justice of the Court of King's Bench, 1723; Chief Justice, 1724; created Baron Raymond, 1731.

‡ Dr. Francis Atterbury; deprived and banished in 1726, and died abroad in 1732.

§ Dr. Thomas Tennison.

has

has, at last, thought fit to send his mandates to the Bishop of Winchester*, and that they will be this night or to-morrow morning with him. I shall, therefore, not go to Lambeth, according to your Majesty's first orders.

I found my Lord Treasurer better than I expected. His Lordship has received a letter from the Earl of Mar, by which he finds that your Majesty's name has been used in the recommendation of Lord Ilay†. This proceeding is, perhaps, so extraordinary, as to deserve to have something done upon it. I think it is said, that, even in the Duke of Argyle's letters, your Majesty's name is employed.

I gave my Lord Treasurer the advertisement which your Majesty commanded me to give, concerning the explanation his Lordship must make, when he pays the hundred pounds to the Countess of Cassells, of your Majesty's intending this sum to be the

* Dr. Charles Trimnell.

† In the election of the sixteen Peers. The Duke of Argyle, and his brother, the Earl of Ilay, sided against Ministry, and moved the repeal of the Act of Union, in the last session of Parliament.

advance of half a year, and not of a quarter. I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

De Monsieur de Torcy.

A Fontainbleau, le 11me Septembre, 1713.

C'EST moins à vous, my Lord, que je dois faire complimens que je ne me le fais à moi-même, sur le changement de votre département. Je compte d'y gagner beaucoup, & je crois aussi que vous ne ferez pas fâché d'avoir désormais des relations plus immédiates & plus fréquentes avec un pays, où vous êtes aimé & honoré autant que vous l'êtes en France. Je souhaite d'avoir bientôt d'autres complimens à vous faire, & quels que soient les récompenses que votre mérite & vos services vous attireront ; j'ose vous assurer, my Lord, que personne n'y fera plus sensible que je le ferai, m'intéressant aussi vivement à tout ce que vous regarde, que je suis, &c.

DE TORCY.

A Mon-

A Monsieur de Torcy.

Du Château de Windsor, ce 29me Sept. V.S. 1713.

AYANT acquis, par les promotions, qu'il a plu à la Reine de faire depuis peu, le droit de choisir tel des deux départemens que je voudrois, vous jugerez bien, Monsieur, que je n'ai pas hésité un moment à me déclarer pour celui dans laquelle la France se trouve ; parmi une infinité d'autres raisons, la seule considération, que j'aurois par-là des occasions plus fréquentes de vous faire souvenir de moi, étoit capable de m'y déterminer. Croyez, Monsieur, s'il vous plaît, que je vous parle sans affectation & sans flatterie, quand je vous assure, qu'il n'y a rien que je desire plus ardemment que la continuation de votre amitié ; elle me tiendra lieu de toutes les récompenses que vous me souhaitez ; c'est un bien qui ne se donne qu'à ceux qui ont quelque mérite, au lieu que les récompenses deviennent très souvent le partage de ceux qui n'en ont pas le moindre : si donc elles me cherchent, je ne suis pas assez détaché du monde pour les rebuter ; & en cas qu'elles ne me cherchent pas, je suis assez philosophe, assez digne de votre amitié, pour m'en

consoler. Ayez, je vous en conjure, assez bonne opinion de moi pour être persuadé de cette vérité, aussi-bien que de l'attachement avec laquelle je veux être toute ma vie, &c.

B.

Sur ce qu'on m'a dit, de votre part, je proposerai à la Reine de faire partir Monsieur le Comte de Scarfdale, qu'elle a nommé, il y a quelques mois, pour être son Envoyé-extraordinaire à Vienne. Sa Majesté ayant le dessein de récompenser ici les bons services que votre ami Matthieu, lui a rendu, le rappellera pour cet effet en très peu de tems. Son successeur sera Monsieur Ros, homme de qualité, & fort attaché à vos serviteurs: il est Lieutenant-général de ses armées, & Colonel-général de ses dragons. Je devois ajouter, que ce n'est qu'en attendant qu'elle nomme un Ambassadeur.

To Mr. Prior.

Whitehall, September 29th, 1713.

I THOUGHT I should have sent you by this courier, a letter from my Lord Treasurer,

surer, but having just now given him notice that Barton is going, I guess by his answer, that he cannot at this time write.

• It is with great pleasure I hear, that he has at last fixed the manner of rewarding your services ; and I assure you, with great sincerity, that no mortification of my own, would be proof against the satisfaction of seeing this perfected. I mention your being recalled, and the nomination of Mr. Ross, in a postscript of my letter, to Monsieur de Torcy, which I desire you to deliver to him ; and at the same time, to thank him for a paragraph in his last letter to the fat Abbot, wherein he promises to sit for his picture, the first time he goes to Paris. Assure him, dear Matt, that I will place it among the Jennys and the Mollys, and that I will prefer it to all of them. As learned as I showed myself, in my criticism on your quotation, I promise you, I have not much leisure. I go in the same tract where you left me, drudging on with much pains, and I believe with little thanks, but however, somewhat more agreeable than before I came into this province. For God's sake, Matthew, say half a score pretty things to Madame de Torcy, and
Madame

Madame de Noailles, and father them upon me. I have really in my time done as much, for several friends that shall be nameless.

I cannot answer that Barton has got any money, and I am surprized to hear that you expect he should.

Will you allow me to add to all this rambling stuff, a few grave words? Surely the French cannot be so weak as to forget the principle already, whereon they appeared to act, during all our late negociation; if they have not forgot it, there can be no difficulty in closing with the overtures which you have made them, concerning Dunkirk, before now. By this measure, most certain it is, they run no risk, since, besides the faith of the most solemn stipulations to secure the demolition, no man who is not mad himself, can believe us mad enough to entertain a thought of keeping Dunkirk in our hands by force, in opposition to France, to Holland, nay, and even to Britain too, or at least a part thereof. But let Monsieur de Torcy turn in his clear head, what an effect it will have, if France steps in to our relief, when we are grieved by the Dutch, and that too in an article where our commerce

merce uses to circulate more than 1200l. *per annum**; would not this give strength to our hands, and weaken those of the adversary? would it not furnish materials for a fine paragraph in the next speech from the throne? would it not raise a spirit to smooth our difficulties about trade, and make all troublesome ferments subside?

In good earnest, friend Prior, they know little of our affairs on your side, if they neglect this opportunity. I own to you, with that frankness which becomes our intimacy, that when I proposed to her Majesty, to make the propositions, which you are acquainted with, about Ostend, I had in my view two points principally: the first was, to give the French this occasion of being popular here, and the second was to create a reason for having delayed the demolition of Dunkirk, without any. Monsieur d'Aumont prepares for his return. I think we have done the honours of our Court to him; at least, I have endeavoured to do my part of them.

Audisti consilii mei motus, superest alterutra

* This sum is trifling, and must be a mistake in the person who copied the letter.

ex parte judicium tuum, in quo mihi æque jucunda erit simplicitas dissentientis quam comprobantis. Vale.

To the Lord Chancellor of Ireland.

MY LORD,

Windfor Castle, October 3rd, 1713.

THOUGH the messenger is just going to be dispatched, I cannot neglect to improve this opportunity, so far at least, as to return you my humble thanks for your obliging letter of the 20th of the last month.

I do assure you, my Lord, with the most unfeigned sincerity, that you are so far from needing any apology, on account of the enemies you have created in Ireland*, with me, that I love and honour you the more heartily for this very reason.

* A book intituled, "Memoirs of the Chevalier de St. George," had been published in Dublin, for which the printer, Loyd, had been prosecuted, but being poor and penitent, the Lord Chancellor, and others in the Council, considered him as an object of the Queen's mercy, and a *noli prosequi* was entered. This, added to the report of the Chancellor's speech, January 1712, when Lord Justice, to the Mayor and Aldermen of Dublin, by which he was said to have prejudged a cause then pending, made him many enemies. The fact was, he was a Tory, and the Whigs having then a majority in the Commons, and the Tories in the Lords, he was prosecuted by the former and protected by the latter.

You

You give a lively and melancholy picture, of the factious party in the kingdom where you preside ; but you point out at the same time, the true, and I add, the only means of blunting their malice, and baffling their attempts. I know nothing, which can result from opposing faction, so bad as submitting to it ; and therefore, a steady pursuit of the principles which you now act upon, is both the most secure, as well as the most honest measure. I dare say, the Duke of Shrewsbury goes to you convinced of this truth, and that the softness of his manner, will not in the least abate of the vigour of his administration.

I know very well, Sir John Stanley's * relations, acquaintance, and habits to be entirely Whiggish, which, I have taken the liberty to tell him, are matter of much prejudice to him, and which will oblige him to more than ordinary circumspection in his behaviour. He has professed to me, all that can be asked of a reasonable man, and I hope, he will make these professions good.

Being called away by some indispensable

* Many years Commissioner of the Customs, and now Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant.

business, I must defer to another occasion, what I have farther to offer to your Lordship, and shall subscribe myself, my Lord,

Your Lordship's, &c.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

Ashdown Park, October 8th, 1713.

TIRED as I am with fox-hunting, since the messenger is to return immediately to London, I cannot neglect to return your Lordship my humble thanks, for the favour of your's of the 13th, N.S. and for the just manner in which your Lordship receives what I write. When I have a real friendship, as I have for you, my passions work, as they do in cases where I am personally affected; to this, therefore, be pleased to ascribe, and for this to excuse, any sentiments of mine, delivered in terms which you may think too strong.

I am unwilling to enter into the dispute, which I hope is over, since your Lordship will, to be sure, have received the Queen's permission to come to Britain. I shall only observe, that when I writ to the Bishop, I
writ

writ by order, that the person and titles are not altered, as your Lordship imagines them; since, though we, in writing, and when we speak, style the Bishop, Bishop of London, yet he is still, in strictness, Bishop of Bristol, and must continue so, until he is confirmed, and when he signs, must sign so.

A thousand thanks to you, for the favourable opinion you entertain of, and for the indulgence you show, my brother.

I hope so soon to embrace you at Windsor, that I say in this letter the less; I must not, however, conclude it, without assuring your Lordship, that I have a true sense of your merit, which some people in the world know very well, and which I have shown upon occasions, which your Lordship never knew of; that I shall ever preserve a sincere friendship for you, and that I hope ever to keep that which your Lordship has for me. You and I, my Lord, have run together through great difficulties, and who knows what time may again bring forth?

Adieu, my Lord, ever inviolably your's,
&c.

BOLINGBROKE.

From

From Mr. Prior.*

MATTHEW TO HENRY.

Fontainebleau, October 9th, N.S. 1713.

THE affair of which I write, in my letter to the Secretary of State, is of so nice a nature, that I can only tell Lord Bolingbroke, in particular, some parts of the discourse I have heard upon it: That Dunkirk was not to be left an hour in any hands but those of the King's subjects: that the King dying left France in the hands of a minority, the Queen dying left England in the hands of the Whigs, the House of Hanover in this case would give Dunkirk to the Dutch, for the shipping they would send the Elector to come over; in case it were practicable to leave Dunkirk some time longer in our hands, our own opinions might change, the new Parliament be against it, and they (the French) lose the nation they might intend to have obliged by this concession, and the Queen herself be prejudiced by it.

* Private.

As

As to their helping us to make the Dutch reasonable, I believe the King is very sincere, and that Monsieur de Torcy will give the most effectual orders in this behalf, as I have writ in my other letter. Concerning the ship Neptune, which Gaultier recommends to Monsieur Pontchartrain, I had already spoke and writ to that Minister; and the persons concerned are here upon the spot to look after it. As your letter will be esteemed a thing of course, and you need not fear your being able to oblige that good-natured person, Pontchartrain, too far; I think it had best *valere quantum valere potest*; and you need give yourself no farther trouble about it. Ever your's,

M. P.

Duke of Shrewsbury wrote me word, Lord Treasurer had something for me, which he had named to him, but his Grace would not trust it to paper: you know, a curiosity in what concerns me so nearly is at least pardonable: if his Grace in discourse tells it to your Lordship, you will be pleased to let me know it, by the next messenger, or in cypher, as you please. Peterborough is, I

know, to congratulate the new King of Sicily; as I already know the designed King of Sardinia, may not my congratulating him, recompense my disappointment as to the other? I leave this to your Lordship's kind consideration.

From Mr. Prior.

MY LORD,

Paris, October 6-17th, 1713.

TO my long public letter, let me join my hearty thanks to you, for your two private friendly epistles of the 25th and 29th. I am now upon the greatest piece of negociation that I ever had in my life, the distribution of your cargo: upon which the Noailles and the Croissys are in an uproar, but having wherewithal to appease them, I begin the great work this afternoon, and shall give you a full account of my actions by the next: both at Fontainebleau and Croissy, we have all remembered *le cher Henri* in the friendliest manner imaginable; and on my side, I have and will continue to lye most strenuously for you. You may be sure, my

* Private.

dear

dear Lord, that I am very glad to come home to you, and to find some settlement, which I do not doubt of, from Lord Treasurer's goodness to me: if (whatever it is) it were done, or at least so far done as to be talked of here, before I left this Court, it would have a better air, and give me more credit in dispatching the business I have yet to do; you know these people, and the account they will make of Matthew, as they think he has credit with Henry and Robin; but this is all with a perfect submission.

Adieu, my dear Lord; if at my return I may help you any way in your drudgery, the youngest clerk you have is not more at your command; and if at the old hour of midnight, after your drudgery, a cold blade-bone of mutton, in Duke Street, will go down *sicut olim*, it, with all that belongs to the master of the house (except Nanny) is entirely yours.

I hear by chance that little Widow Jersey* designs to come to France; *cela ne vaut pas; le diable, empêchez-la, my Lord, de le faire autant que vous pouvez.*

* The Countess, widow of the late Earl, she was a Roman Catholic.

Adieu, may God bless you; men respect you, and women love you.

From Mr. Prior.*

MY DEAR LORD,

Verfailles, October 9-20th, 1713

I HAVE troubled you with so long a letter, that a large postscript would be even grievous.

I have made the distribution of your goods, and given the parties concerned notice thereof: but the Noailles are in the country, and they and the Torcy party, desire their effects may remain with me some days. Monsieur de Torcy has his Cæsar, *il est bien beau*, and he will thank you himself; he will sit for his picture as soon as he can come to Paris, and then he and Madame Torcy, Bouzolle and I and old Laffy are to drink to you, in sack.

I am amazed at our little friend Jersey's coming hither, as I tell you in my public letter, for fear the Queen should not know of her coming, or think I did; if you knew of it, I believe you would have told me, if

* Private.

not,

not, it is stupendous; it will make more work than we are well aware of in either case. I do not care, let who so will come, go, be libertines, nuns, or as they please.

I am, ever,

M. PRIOR.

*To the Countess of Jersey *.*

MADAM,

Ashdown Park, October 11th, 1713.

I AM so many ways concerned in your conduct, as a relation, as a friend, and as one who, in some sort, pawned his credit for your behaviour, that you must not be surprized, if I write to you, even after your last letter.

All the ill consequences, which I foresaw would happen, if you stole yourself away, came on thick, and you are already exposed to every reflection, which from the bottom of my heart, I wished you might avoid. But indeed, that you would steal your son away, was what I never imagined. That out of a mistaken friendship, you would interrupt, to his unspeakable prejudice, the

* Then in France.

method of his education; that you would make so ill a return to the Queen, for what she had done, and intended farther to do for my cousin; this, I said, never entered into my thoughts, that you could be capable of.

In a word, Madam, I have always been a sincere servant to you, ever since you thought fit to ask my assistance; and I will not depart from this sincerity, in this instance, which may very probably be the last of the correspondence between your Ladyship and me, or any other of your family, or true friends on this side. If therefore, you will write such a letter, as may be fit to show the Queen, concerning the disposition of your own person, and your future views, and at the same time offer to send Mr. Villars * to Westminster, where the Queen desires he may continue; I can undertake, and I never yet deceived you, as I am willing to hope you never did me, that all which has passed will be forgot, that you will be justified in the world, and be as you can wish to be in the Queen's opinion.

* The son above-mentioned.

I will

I will send two servants in this case to attend my young kinsman over, and it shall be my charge to see that his education be provided for, and the foundation of his future fortune laid.

If your Ladyship has any counsellor, who prevails on you to pursue other measures, I have done my duty, and you, Madam, must run your fate, which will not be such as you flatter yourself perhaps with.

In this case, it is but fair to tell you, that I will act in such a manner, as shall show the world I had no part in your secret; and am answerable for no part of your conduct.

To all that is above, I may tell you, that my Lady Masham agrees. So that from what I write now, you have a full view of her sense as well as mine. God grant you may take such a resolution, as may give those, who have been your friends, no reason to repent they ever were so.

There is nothing I desire more passionately, than to continue always, Madam, your Ladyship's, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To Mr. Prior.

HARRY TO MATT, S.D.

Ashdown Park, October 11th, 1713.

AS to Dunkirk, I shall only add to what my public letter says, that I am not much surprized.

The season of compliance succeeds the season of submission. Before your signing the peace, France must have complied with what the Queen could in reason ask, either on this, or on any other head. After the signing the peace, it was easy to foresee the terms of civility would be preserved, but the real actual complaisance would grow much more rare.

I must inform you, that my Lady Jersey has imposed on Lady Masham, as much as me; we both dissuaded her from what certainly was a foolish resolution, and what I hope will not appear to be of a worse nature; but we avoided speaking to the Queen, in hopes that she would once more have consulted me, before she went.

I am now heartily sorry I trusted her so far, since it would have been easy to have stopped her son. This messenger delivers her a letter in his way to you; at his return, pray
write

write very plainly to her. If she does not design to defraud the creditors, she is mad to leave herself no resource at home, which, by the Queen's favours, she would have had; and if she does, she must remember, that her jointure may by law be entered upon.

I really do not know what Lord Treasurer designs for you; but I hope, and believe it is of a nature to make your fortune easy. If it be equal to your merit, and my wishes, it will indeed be considerable.

Adieu, I am ever the same.

To Mr. Secretary Bromley.

S I R,

Ashtown Park, October 21st, 1713.

MR. TILSON will have the honour to transmit to you some additional instructions to the Earl of Peterborough, which I have prepared here, and sent him to transcribe. I beg of you to offer them to her Majesty, for her sign-manual, and immediately to dispatch them back to my office, from whence they will be conveyed safely to my Lord Peterborough, whether he be still at London or set out on his journey.

You

You will be so good as to observe to the Queen, that it is (I humbly think) much more for her service, to tie his Lordship down, by instructions, to the points he shall meddle with, in his passage through France, than to leave him at liberty to entertain the French Ministers and himself, with variety of schemes, which at best would make them imagine our councils here very uncertain, and which might perhaps start some new proposition, not agreeable to the Queen, nor easy to evade.

The first part of the instructions I have consulted my Lord Treasurer upon, who was of my opinion, that it should be given; it is a consequence of the Queen's obligations, and it will probably have the effect of letting us see, betimes, how France stands inclined, in a case, which we must be parties to. In the mean while, it obliges her Majesty to nothing new.

The second part of these instructions contains nothing more, than the language which on very mature deliberation, her Majesty ordered the Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht, the Duke of Shrewsbury at Paris, and your humble servant here, to hold to the French Ministers. As the matter is very nice, and will
certainly

certainly be the subject of some discourse, when the Earl of Peterborough is at the French Court, I hope the Queen will approve of his being instructed to speak conformably to what has already been delivered as her Majesty's sense.

The last part is purely put in *par manière d'acquie*. If any good effect results from it, the Queen will, I am sure, in mercy be glad of it; if none, her Majesty will, however, have the satisfaction of labouring incessantly in this instance, as she has done in so many others, to do good to the ungrateful, and to save the infatuated.

I shall in few days attend my duty, at Windsor, neither would I take these few days, did I not see that the business of the department allowed of it; for my health, my private affairs, and much more my amusements, have been, and always shall be, neglected, when the Queen's service, or her commands call upon me.

Be so kind as to assure the Queen of my humble duty, and inform her Majesty, that although I have reason to think the Elector of Bavaria may be induced, on account of his peace with the Emperor, and the marriage of
his

his son to an Archduchess, to drop his pretensions to the kingdom of Sardinia; and although, in this case, it is of moment to sound the French, and to think betimes what disposition shall be made of that island; yet I avoided touching this point in my Lord Peterborough's instructions, not knowing how far the pleasure of giving kingdoms might transport his Lordship. I have at the same time taken another way of being informed, how far the negociation about Sardinia has gone, and what views France may have with relation to it.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

A Monsieur le Duc d'Aumont.*

De mon Ecurie, ce 21me Octobre, 1713.

PARMI les chiens & les chevaux, au milieu de la plus profonde retraite, je n'ai rien à souhaiter pour être tout-à-fait heureux, que la conversation du cher Duc d'Aumont, puisque, selon les apparences je ne vous verrai de

* Now about to return to France, after a vain, ostentatious, and ruinous embassy. Louis XIV gave him 100,000 livres, and granted him a pension of 50,000 for four years, to recover his finances.

long-tems,

long-tems, peut-être jamais : écrivons-nous quelque fois, s'il vous plaît.

Vous retournez en France, & je fais qu'il n'est pas nécessaire de vous animer à tout faire, pour entretenir une bonne correspondance entre nos deux nations. Je vous jure, que si je continue à travailler à l'avenir, comme j'ai fait par le passé, le principal motif qui m'y porte est le desir sincère que j'ai de contribuer à perfectionner & à affermir cette union, qui a été formée, nonobstant tous les efforts que la malice pouvoit inventer, & la malice mettre en exécution. Je crois que vous me connoissez assez pour ajouter foi à ce que je viens de vous dire.

Votre parent trouvera en moi un ami très sincère, & un serviteur très fidelle. J'espère vous donner une réponse, par ordre de la Reine, à la lettre que vous avez écrit à sa Majesté, d'abord que je serai de retour au Château de Windsor.

Mes amis qui se trouvent ici, se souviennent de vous, avec toute l'estime & toute la tendresse qu'exigent vos mérites, & votre santé ne pourra jamais être oublié dans aucun endroit où je me trouverai.

Le chiffre vous sera remis sûrement. Je
réponds

réponds de vous satisfaire sur l'Affiente. Je ne réponds pas de même à l'égard du Sieur Saintard.

Adieu, mon cher Duc ; je vous embrasse mille & mille fois. Que je cesse de vivre, si jamais je cesse d'être, avec un dévouement parfait, votre, &c.

B.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Windfor Castle, November 10th, 1713.

ALTHOUGH an action would not lie in Westminster Hall, yet I am sure it would in a court of honour, as much against him, who refused his certificate to the merit he knew, as against him, who gave his certificate in contradiction to his opinion.

This principle, my Lord, must excuse me to your Grace, for troubling you in behalf of Mr. Cecil, who has deserved well and suffered much ; so much that the wounds he has received are perhaps the least hardship he has undergone.

I implore a favourable audience for him,
and

and dare say for him what was said for Septimus, *Scribe tui gregis*, &c.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To Sir John Stanley.

Whitehall, November 10th, 1713.

I CANNOT neglect to recommend Colonel Cecil to your favour, and through you to my Lord Lieutenant.

He is an officer of very real merit, and carries about him some melancholy proofs of it.

He was kept down in the regiment, by the coming of a young fellow from school, who had in his childhood a commission of captain. He hopes, and sure hopes reasonably enough, a seniority, deduced from infancy, shall not eternally stand in the way of actual service.

You are so true a friend to those who deserve well, that I know I need make you no excuse for the trouble I give. I conclude therefore, by assuring you that I am, dear Sir, your most faithful, and most humble servant.

BOLINGBROKE.

To

To the Lord Chancellor of Ireland

MY LORD,

Windfor-Castle, November 10th, 1713.

BEING obliged to dispatch the packet to Ireland from this place, I have not before me the letters, for which I am extremely obliged to your Lordship, and must therefore presume on your Lordship's indulgence, if I omit giving a particular answer to any point.

Your Lordship will hear from other, and from better hands, what concern the letters of the third of this month, from Dublin, have occasioned here. My Lord Chancellor Harcourt, Mr. Attorney, and Mr. Solicitor General, being positive in their opinion, even upon recollection and examination, that the mayor of Dublin cannot legally hold over *, and the only expedient which

* The dispute was about the election of a Lord Mayor of Dublin; 17 Aldermen chose one candidate, and were opposed by the then Lord Mayor. The difference was to be settled by the Privy Council, who, after hearing arguments on both sides, resolved, 1st, that the Lord Mayor has the right of nominating three aldermen, to be put in election for the Mayoralty, and that the Mayor and Aldermen, are obliged to elect one of these, unless just objection be made against him. 2d, That the proceedings of the 17 Aldermen, in the absence of the Lord Mayor, was a breach of the new rules, and such election was void. After this, the Lord Mayor summoned the Aldermen to proceed to a new election, and named three candidates, but a majority of the Aldermen objecting to the first

which the Privy Council of Ireland seemed determined to acquiesce in, being built on a supposition that such holding over is legal, her Majesty is under much perplexity and apprehension. This comfort however she has, that your Lordship and the rest of her servants, want neither capacity to judge, nor temper to manage; and on this she relies for a happy issue of a contest, which must be reckoned unfortunate, not perhaps so much from the nature of it, as from the conjuncture of time.

We expect, with no small impatience, the next letter from your side, that we may know what passed in the Council, which the Lord Lieutenant writes, that he intended to call as soon as the 5th of November was over. I shall then have the honour to write again to your Lordship, who will be pleased, in the mean time, and at all times, to look on me as, my Lord, your Lordship's, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

first named, the Mayor dissolved the meeting, this occurred 10th September. Nothing was settled, and the Lord Mayor, Sir Samuel Cooke, was now holding over.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Windfor-Castle, November 10th, 1713.

BESIDES the letters, which I acknowledge in my other dispatch, I am to return your Grace my very humble thanks for your's of the 29th of the last month.

I am extremely sorry on your Grace's private account, as well as on the public score, that you meet with tempers less tractable, and difficulties greater than you expected *. But instead of wishing for one more equal to the hard task which you have in hand, it is to me a great comfort, to reflect, that the Queen could no where have found any one so likely to draw her affairs out of perplexities, and to restore the peace of Ireland, as your Grace, from your natural temper, from your acquired talents, and from the character which your conduct in the world has formed. I am willing to promise myself, that your Grace will succeed in allaying the ferment. This I am confident of, that if

* The Duke arrived in Ireland during the ferment of the controversy of the Dublin Mayoralty, and of the general election, which was carried on with all the virulence of party rancour.

you cannot persuade them, neither would they be persuaded, though one should rise from the dead.

My Lord Chancellor, my Lord Treasurer, and Mr. Secretary Bromley, will all write by this post to Lord Chancellor Phipps, as I have likewise taken the liberty to do. Mr. Secretary, I believe, writes at the same time to the Earl of Anglesea *; too many endeavours cannot be used to dispose the minds of men to such a temper as you may be able to work upon.

Your Grace was very good in leaving directions about poor Booth †, in Mr. Vice-Chamberlain's hands, who has, I believe, adjusted the interest, and dispatched the patent. It belongs only to those of your Grace's standard, not to let slip the minutest affairs, while they roll in their minds the fate of kingdoms, and the government of the world.

I am ever, with the most unfeigned respect, my Lord Duke, your Grace's, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

* Vice Treasurer of Ireland.

† The Comedian.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, November 12th, 1713.

MONSIEUR Giraldi*, came just now to acquaint me, that the Great Prince was certainly dead, and that he expected every moment, orders to notify his death in form to your Majesty. It is much to be apprehended lest this event may occasion new disputes in Europe, before the old ones are reconciled, and lest the views which the Emperor, as well as the Kings of France and Spain, has on the succession of Florence, may now take place, so as to add fresh obstructions to the peace.

I have taken care [that some Lords of the Admiralty do attend next Sunday at Windsor, because, it is probable, your Majesty may think fit to quicken your measures for sending a squadron of frigates into the Mediterranean.

I have received a letter from the Duke of Shrewsbury, of the 5th of November; the substance of it is no more than this, that all industry is used to make the dispute at

* Minister of the Grand Duke of Tuscany.

Dublin

Dublin a party cause, and that he desires my Lord Chancellor, my Lord Treasurer, and myself, to acquaint the leading men in Ireland, with our opinions of the necessity of quieting this contention. This part of my Lord Duke's letter is already answered, for we have writ, and Mr. Secretary Bromley has done the same.

The Committee of Lords met this morning. The principal matters which they had before them, was the state of Northern affairs, on which head they found it absolutely necessary to speak with Mr. Rosenkrantz. He is therefore writ to, and desired to come to this place to-morrow morning, at twelve: my Lords thinking I might be of use to them at this conference, I cannot set out, as I intended, in the morning, but I will not fail, the moment the Lords rise, to return to Windsor.

I hope my Lords of Trade will be ready with their part, as I shall be with mine, for appointing Commissaries of commerce, and for dispatching a Minister to Madrid; I shall put my Lord Treasurer in mind to be ready to offer such persons to your Majesty, as you

may depend upon for both these pressing services.

Mr. Worsley is ready, and may set out towards Lisbon next week.

There have been letters, from the Emperor to the Catalans, intercepted by the Spaniards, wherein he exhorts them to continue the war, and promises to assist them with the money arising from the State of Final. I hear that the King of Spain's agent is preparing a memorial on this subject, but I have not yet spoke with him myself. This scandalous violation of public faith, will perhaps force your Majesty from some restraints, which your own goodness has hitherto kept you under. I am, with unfeigned duty and zeal, Madam,

Your Majesty's most faithful,

Most humble, and

Most devoted servant,

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, November 12th, 1713.

I RECEIVED the honour of your Grace's letter, of the 5th instant, yesterday, on my arrival

arrival from Windsor. What you are pleased, my Lord, to expect from your servants, on this side of the water, is already performed; and you will have found, by my letter of Tuesday last, that my Lord Chancellor, my Lord Treasurer, Mr. Secretary Bromley, and I, have writ our sentiments very freely, about the unfortunate dispute which has subsisted so long, and been maintained so warmly. All the endeavours, which your Grace has used, seem pointed so plainly to get over the present critical conjuncture, and yet leave the council at full liberty to support, in any other season, the right they claim, that to me it is a matter of amazement, to see any industry used to render this a cause of party. If any advantage was to be given to the Aldermen over the Council, party might, indeed, be pleaded, and I should be extremely concerned at it; for, without breach of charity, it may be said, that there is a good deal of the spirit of Cromwell's agitators, in the Irish Whig leaders*. Every

* Mr. Broderick, Speaker of the Commons; Lord Chancellor in 1714; created Lord Broderick, in 1715; and Viscount Middleton, in 1717. Mr. Moleworth, created Viscount, in 1716. Mr. Foster, made Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, 1714.

thing, I hope, has been done, I am sure every thing must be done, that is possible, to assist your Grace to carry on a smooth and quiet session of Parliament. The Tories will surely think it their interest to support that administration, by which they have been raised from oppression, and in which all their reasonable hopes must centre; and I hear they are in a fair way of having a clear majority in the House of Commons, according to the course which the elections hitherto have taken *. But of this it is impertinent for me to write to your Grace.

A violent cold, a fast-day, and a politic sermon, are three as great plagues as can well meet together. I most heartily wish, that a successful issue of this perplexed affair, may make your Grace amends for the trouble you meet with in the progress of it, and I persuade myself this will be the case. A steady pursuit of a reasonable measure, and a steady support of the Church interest, will get the better of any either accidental or artificial jealousies. If the first occasion mistakes of your Grace's meaning, the lat-

* This was a mistake, the Whigs had a majority, and, upon the choice of a Speaker, carried their point by four voices.

ter will set those mistakes right. We expect every moment to hear what has passed in the Council, an answer to which it shall be my care to procure, with all possible dispatch. I am, &c.

B.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Windſor Caſtle, November 17th, 1713.

WILL you forgive me writing three letters by one packet? I could not forbear adding theſe lines in private, to mention a thought which occurred the other day to Lord Chancellor and myſelf, and which very probably has been entertained already by your Grace. The Tories are ſure, if they do not flatter themſelves, of a conſiderable majority in your Houſe of Commons; why ſhould not therefore a bill put an end to the preſent conteſt, and clear whatever is dark in the conſtitution of the city of Dublin; ſo as to prevent all future cavils, and to ſettle the corporation with juſtice to all, and with particular ſatisfaction to our friends? I know that the other ſide, whiſt they flattered themſelves

themselves with hopes of being superior in Parliament, designed not only an attack on the Chancellor of Ireland, for his share in these proceedings, but even to have pinned down and sanctified their sides of the question by a law. I make no more apologies, but to depend on the prescription which I have to entitle me to your Grace's indulgence.

I am, &c.

B.

To the Lord Chancellor of Ireland.

Windſor Caſtle, November 17th, 1713.

I RECEIVE, my Lord, at all times, your Lordſhip's letters with very particular ſatisfaction, and can aſſure you, that no correſpondent you have, will more induſtriouſly endeavour to make a good uſe of the informations you are pleaſed to communicate. If the Mayor can hold over, that is undoubtedly the beſt of all expedients, and was always thought ſo here. Other expedients were ſtarted, on a ſuppoſition that this could not take place; and I confeſs, I am ſorry to ſee the only one, which our friends have

have left themselves to stand upon, liable to the least doubt.

The happy turn, which the elections take, gives indeed a new turn to our thoughts; with a majority of churchmen, the whole may be settled, both for the present and for futurity, and this I hope too, without occasioning any great disorder, or measuring out any great length to the Session.

What your Lordship observes, is an old artifice of the Whigs, and when you consider how much it imports them to sow jealousies between my Lord Lieutenant and the Tories, you will not be surprized that they put it in practice. But, my Lord, the story mentioned at the latter end of the letter, is the true picture of the Duke of Shrewsbury, and shows what, in my conscience, I think is at the bottom of his heart. For God's sake, my Lord, let no Whigs succeed by impudence, and crowd our friends out of a place, where they would be the most acceptable. I am, &c.

B.

May I entreat the favour of your Lordship, to assure my Lord Anglesea, whom I suppose

suppose at Dublin, of my most humble service.

To Sir John Stanley.

S I R,

Windsor Castle, November 17th, 1713.

WE wish heartily here, that the learned in the law on your side, may be more in the right, concerning the holding over of the Mayor, than their brethren on our side of the water. I find, however, that neither Lord Chancellor, Mr. Attorney nor Mr. Solicitor General, will give up their opinion, unless some new charter, some new prescription be produced to them, to determine them so to do. In the mean while, however, I confess to you, that this dispute and its consequences grow every day momentous to my apprehension. We feared, in the first place, lest the ferment of this contention, meeting with the other ferment which the elections naturally produce, some disturbance more than ordinary might ensue. This fear is over, the elections are finished, or near so, the dispute subsists, there has been one riot*, and the worst that can happen is past.

Another

* At Dublin. The mob appears to have been in favour of

Another apprehension was, that the Parliament might take part in this cause, and the majority of the Commons, being Whigs, which was then, you know, depended on as sure, might side with the Aldermen, against the Council, against the Chancellor, in short, against those which were the Government, and whom her Majesty could not abandon. This fear is likewise out of doors, if it be true, that the Tories will be, as I most heartily wish they may, the majority of the Lower House.

I inclose a letter to my friend Lord Chancellor Phipps, which I beg you to deliver to him. I hope you will have no differences with him; if you have, he is a plain and honest man, and therefore it will be the more easy to make them up, and to unite heartily in the Queen's service, and the pursuit of the public good; both which, I persuade myself, you have both at heart. I am so confined to this place, that I can give you no news from this place, or the cockpit.

I am, &c.

of Government; the military were called in, one man of the mob was killed, and the Whigs in Parliament approved of the conduct of the soldiery.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, November 25th, 1713.

I HAVE received this morning, letters from Dublin, of the 18th and 19th of this month: the Duke of Shrewsbury writes, that he has, with the advice of your Majesty's Council, prorogued the Parliament to the 25th instant, which is this very day, upon a representation made to his Grace, by my Lord Chancellor and others, that the time between the elections of Members and the 20th day of this month, when the Parliament stood appointed to meet, was so short, that many of them could not be in town, soon enough to be present at the choice of a speaker.

My Lord Lieutenant seems doubtful, whether he shall be able to carry the Speaker, the Whigs setting up Broderick against your Majesty's recommendation of your Solicitor *; and his Grace farther thinks, that if the majority of Churchmen be not great, the clamour will be so against those who have pushed the affair of the city.

* Sir Richard Levintz, who in 1720 was Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas.

On

On the other hand, I find the rest of your Majesty's servants, and even those who have most to apprehend, personally, out of all fear either as to the choice of a Speaker, or as to proceedings upon the dispute between the Council and Aldermen. The next letters will determine this difference.

I have spent near three hours with Mr. Clarke * this morning, and have got a clear knowledge of the state of every thing, which relates to admiralty affairs, and which depends now before your Majesty. If my Lord Treasurer allows me to receive his directions in these points, and in those others, which your Majesty commanded me to speak to him upon, they may all be off your Majesty's hands on Monday at farthest. I have writ to my Lord, but have yet no answer; I hear he is ill himself. We hear, and I doubt the news is true, that your Majesty's ship the Ormond is cast away, on the coast of Languedoc, and that all her men are drowned.

Monfieur Rosenkrantz was just now with me, to let me know that he expected to be recalled very soon. He entered into the

* George Clarke, a Lord of the Admiralty; he was Secretary to George Prince of Denmark, when Lord High Admiral.

state of his master's affairs with much plainness. I answered him very honestly, but shall not now trouble your Majesty with the particulars.

The Committee of Council sits to-morrow. On Friday, if it be possible, I will return to my attendance at Windsor. I am, &c.

B.

To Don Patricio Lawless.*

SIR,

Windsor, November 21st, 1713.

I WOULD sooner have kept the promise I made you, had not the illness, with which I was seized at my return from London to this place, prevented me. I shall now give you the best account I am able, of what I have immediately in command from her Majesty to say, and also of the sense of our Court on the present posture of affairs in general.

There is nothing which the Queen desires more, than to confirm that friendship between herself and the Catholic King, and

* By birth an Irishman; appointed by the King of Spain, Commissary to settle the treaty of commerce with Great Britain.

between

between the British and Spanish nations, which has been so happily restored; and nothing, I am sure, can contribute more effectually to this purpose, than a free communication of thoughts and designs.

Your letter to me of the 12th, O.S. and the extract of the Duke of Ossuna's letter to you, of the 14th, N.S. were both laid before the Queen, during my confinement, by Mr. Secretary Bromley; her Majesty thought that she could not come to any resolution on this affair, till she received a more formal and direct communication thereof; neither indeed can it be expected, that her Majesty should make any positive declaration concerning the infraction of the treaty, mentioned by the Duke d'Ossuna, or proceed to act on the foot of her guaranty, until the party, supposed to have violated the terms of the convention, has been called upon, and several other previous steps have been taken, which justice, as well as decency and the nature of engagements of this kind require. But this, Sir, the Catholic King may rest assured of, that, in a proper time and a proper manner, the Queen will not only fulfill all her engagements to him, but even be

ready to take such measures, in concert with him, as may, by the blessing of God, effectually restore the internal quiet of Spain, and the general tranquillity of Europe.

It has been matter of much concern to her Majesty, to observe the negociations of peace grew more embroiled towards their conclusion, and that great work fail, as it were, in the last act of it; as if the spirit, with which we began our treaties, had spent itself; and as if some parties, being drawn out of the war, advantage might be made of delaying with others, and a general peace was not now of such immediate necessity.

These are indeed the sentiments of the Imperial Court; suspending of all treaty, and at any rate protracting the war, is the interest of his Imperial Majesty, according to the views which he seems to have: but, for this very reason, it can never be the interest of the Catholic King. The Ministers at Vienna have no doubt a pleasure to see the Catalans and the people of Majorca continue obstinate in their refusal to submit; the war on the side of Portugal rather in a condition of rekindling, than being extinguished, and then the treaties between her Majesty and the

the Catholic King, which want little more than being understood to be perfected, still open.

Put yourself for a moment in the situation of one of these gentlemen, and you will be struck with the same flattering hopes as they entertain, from the considerations I have mentioned. Every hour which defers the general peace, and the new settlement of Europe intended by it, from taking place, gives a chance for the happening of some out of a multitude of accidents, any one of which might, at this time, render all the steps we have made towards peace and order vain, and throw us back into confusion. Whereas, if any of these accidents should fall out after Europe was come to an absolute settlement, and all the late quarrels were, by common consent, adjusted, they might indeed give us trouble, and be accounted misfortunes; but they could not in probability, have the dreadful consequence, I mentioned before, of throwing us back into that wild confusion, from whence we are now almost entirely extricated. Nothing need be said, to show, that the very reverse of all

this is the interest of Spain and France, as well as of Great Britain.

Let us, therefore, descend to particulars, and consider which way the present course of affairs tends, whether to the scheme of the Imperial Court, or to that which ought to be ours?

The delay of the peace between Spain and Portugal gives present encouragement, and may, without dispute, give future advantage to the Catalans: the resistance of the Catalans may prove of still greater moment, and of worse consequence than it is now apprehended to be, if the Ministers of Spain, by exacting terms too rigorous of those of Portugal, who have hitherto felt no return to those facilities which their master gave in the beginning of the negociation, should drive the Court of Lisbon into a sort of generous despair, and make them resolve at all events to risk the continuance of the war. There remains behind these, another particular, which must be allowed very much to aggravate the two evils which I last mentioned. The treaty of peace between Great Britain and Spain is indeed concluded, but
not

not ratified. The treaty of commerce between these nations, in negotiating which there is no trial of skill, no design to carry any point but what is for the ease of trade, and consequently a benefit to his Catholic Majesty, to his subjects, and to all people who have any commerce whatsoever in his dominions, remains still unfinished ; and the differences, as they appear upon the face of the draught last transmitted from Utrecht, are such as we imagine to have been entirely reconciled, or rather to have been never started at Madrid.

The Queen gave the first motion to all the transactions of peace ; it may be said, without vanity, and with great truth, that whatever has been either easy or honourable for Spain, has been either directly procured by the Queen, or brought about in consequence of what had been done by her. To set this matter in its full light, it is only necessary to recollect the several bargains, as far as Spain is affected by them, which were made before any correspondence was opened between the Queen and his Catholic Majesty, and those which have been entered into since. And now, what appearance must it

have to the world, and what effect must that appearance have on the minds of men, if the interest of her Majesty should be some of the last to be determined at Madrid? But this is not all. The affairs of Europe are still embroiled; the constitution of this government exposes our politics to strange vicissitudes, and runs us into unaccountable extremes.

Is it reconcileable, therefore, to the rules of prudence, not to prevent any incident which may create a new ferment here? which, considering the figure that Great Britain has of late years taken upon her, and is still in condition to make, must to a great degree affect the affairs of Europe in general, and of Spain in particular. I believe I have formerly acquainted you with the purport of a defensive alliance made, in 1703, between her Majesty and the King of Portugal. Suppose now that her Majesty should be obliged, before her treaties with Spain are concluded, and their ratifications exchanged, to put this treaty in execution; and the King of Portugal has already made demand of the ships and men, which, by virtue thereof, are to be furnished in his defence.

fence. If we enter into any measures of this kind, our treaties being concluded with Spain, the defence of Portugal will be our only care, nothing will be able to carry us farther. But should a body of the Queen's troops, and a squadron of her ships, appear in this cause, before the renewal of friendship between our two nations was solemnly ratified, who could answer for the advantages which might be taken, and the improvement which might be made of this step, both by the enemies of peace abroad, and by that number of factious people here, who desire nothing more than a renewal of our former quarrel, and a revival of the war? Be pleased to carry this thoroughly on, and to see how far the war in Catalonia is, and may be, affected by delays used in finishing our treaties?

It was upon a confidence that no difficulties, of the nature of those, which at this time obstruct the conclusion of the treaty of commerce, would be insisted on; it was on a confidence that, the King of Portugal having departed from that demand of a barrier on the continent of Spain, which gave so much offence to the Spaniards, the Ca-

tholic King would, instead of raising any new demands, have complied with the few which then remained, that her Majesty withdrew her own forces out of Catalonia, stopped the supplies which she used to furnish to the Imperial troops, and laboured so zealously and so successfully to deliver Spain of all foreign troops, and, as far as in her lay, to put that kingdom into absolute peace. But can it be expected, can, if I may say so, the Queen justify either to herself or to her people, that being disappointed in both these views, that every minute objection becoming strong enough to hinder the Court of Spain from concluding with her, that the abatements, which the King of Portugal had made in his former demands on Spain, having only served to produce new ones upon himself, her Majesty should act very vigorously towards completing the reduction of the Catalans? Whereas, if the Queen is no longer concerned in any dispute with Spain, either on her own account or on account of Portugal, she will be able to assume another air; and will, in this instance, and in several others, which it is not hard to foresee, prove

as

as useful as she is a sincere friend to the Catholic King.

In a word, Sir, when we put the restraints which we lie under, the inconveniences which we actually feel, and the many fatal accidents we are exposed to, whilst affairs continue between Great Britain and Spain in the present uncertainty, in the balance against those points which are still controverted at Utrecht, the latter appear such trifles compared with the former, that I cannot express to you the astonishment nor concern wherewith our Ministers are struck. I may tell you likewise, in confidence, that the Queen is grown extremely uneasy at this situation of affairs, not only with respect to what may pass abroad, but with respect to her administration at home.

You are so well apprized of the nature of this Government in general, and of the particular circumstances of our parties at this time, that I need not go about to show you what difficulties at home are created by a dubious state of business abroad. I shall only point out to you one consideration, which is of weight, and deserves very serious attention: a new Parliament is elected.

ed, and the two Houses must now, in a short time, assemble; the Queen will be obliged to give such a turn to their deliberations, and to make such demands of the Commons, as shall be proportioned to the state of the affairs of Europe, which subsists at that time, or which she then foresees, in the course of the ensuing year, likely to take place: if, therefore, we remain, either on our own account or on account of Portugal, uncertain what correspondence, whether a good or bad one, may be entertained betwixt the Queen and his Catholic Majesty, provision must be made in Parliament, you know, Sir, for the worst. The making the provision will sour the minds even of the best disposed; and this sourness of mind will not fail to be acted upon by such as desire to prevent a perfect reconciliation. But if this reconciliation of all differences be perfected before the meeting of parliament, the proceedings of the two houses will, without dispute, be such as are most proper to cement this reconciliation, to enable the Queen by all means, whether of force or of good offices, to prosecute the accomplishment of the great work of a general

neral peace, and absolutely to defeat the designs, and to cut off the hopes, of those who still persist in their attempts to keep the war alive where it rages, and to rekindle it where it has been extinguished.

By the communication, which you will have received from Mr. Moore, you will be apprized of the differences between your Ministers and ours, in the treaty of commerce, as they stand upon Mr. Gilligan's arrival at Utrecht, and joining in the conferences held there. By what the Duke d'Offuna and the Marquis de Montéleon, have, I suppose, written to you, as well as by the accounts which you had from me, you see how near an accommodation the disputes between your Court and that of Lisbon are brought; let me desire you, on the principles which I have endeavoured in this letter to explain, and by such other arguments, as your own good sense and experience in business will furnish you with, to use your utmost endeavours to prevail on the King your master, to bring the two last-mentioned negociations to a speedy issue; and not to hearken to the insinuations of those ministers, if any such there are, who, under the notion of saving a little on
one

one hand, or of getting a little on the other, hazard the general tranquillity of Europe, and expose to ruin a scheme, which, by so much labour, and through so many dangers, is brought to the very point of accomplishment.

What I have here represented to you, will be the foundation of a great part of the instructions of that Minister, whom her Majesty intends immediately to dispatch to Madrid; and who will, I hope, be declared in very few days. This Minister will be such an one as possesses the whole secret of our Court; and lives in the utmost confidence with us who serve. We shall therefore hope, that he may be honoured with the particular confidence of the Catholic King and of his Ministers, and then, humanly speaking, it will be impossible to prevent our establishing such an union between the two nations, as never yet subsisted in the days of our greatest intimacy, and our laying of such a foundation as may build up the Spanish Monarchy (which it is the true interest of Britain, to desire to see) to a greater degree of power, as well in America as in Europe, than perhaps she was mistress of, even before those dismemberments,

ments, which an unfortunate chain of causes had rendered unavoidable. I cannot help adding, that as good an opinion as I may have concerted of the character of the person I am speaking of; and as fit as I may think him to remove all those difficulties, which obstruct the conclusion of our treaties, I shall be extremely sorry if any of this work remains for him to do at Madrid; since in this case, he may indeed, prevent some ill consequences, and so play a saving game; but it will not be in his, nor in any man's power to prevent several others, nor to play the game, with the same advantage, and assurance of success, as it is now in our power to do.

It may be proper I should likewise inform you, that her Majesty has ordered a ship of sixty, and another of fifty guns, with two bomb-vessels, to proceed to the Mediterranean, in about three weeks' time. These ships, together with those which are lately gone from hence, on particular services, with those which are ordered to continue in that sea, and with those which are now cruising on the Corsairs of Sallée, will compose a squadron of ten or eleven men of war, and
two

two bomb vessels. This her Majesty judges will be sufficient force to undertake any operation, which, for the present, may be necessary; and as the spring season of the year advances, this force may, without any difficulty, be increased: great caution will be used in the person appointed to command; who will be ordered to sail with the first ships. I can venture to assure you, and you may venture to take my word, that he will be such an one, as we can entirely rely upon, for an exact, a faithful, and a vigorous execution, of whatever orders he shall receive from the Queen. I most heartily wish affairs may take such a turn, that his zeal or his capacity may be employed in the service of his Catholic Majesty, and of the Spanish nation.

Before I conclude this letter, there is another article, which I have it in command from her Majesty, to take notice of to you. The Queen being apprehensive, from what passed at Madrid very lately, that if we do not understand one another in time upon this head, disputes may arise, when her Minister arrives at the Court; and a nicety in form may prove of real and substantial prejudice to the common cause. When there arose some doubt at
Utrecht,

Utrecht, about inserting the titles of his Catholic Majesty in the treaty of peace, the Spanish Ministers at first insisted to have all the titles put into the preamble; but at last they agreed to drop that pretension, and to let their master's titles run as follows: *Serenissimus & Potentissimus Princeps, & Dominus Philippus Quintus, Dei Gratia Hispaniarum Rex Catholicus, &c.* And because it was not thought proper to change the titles used in the renunciation, in order to remove the objections which might have been made on that account, the Plenipotentiaries of Spain signed an act, declaring, in their master's name, that, although in their full powers, and in some part of the treaty, several titles were inserted of places and provinces, which his Catholic Majesty had yielded; yet his said Majesty's intent and meaning was not that the using such titles should prejudice the rights of any concerned. It was therefore matter of surprise to her Majesty, to find that this dispute had been again revived, when Lord Lexington exhibited in form his credentials, especially since no objection had been made to them, when he produced them at his first arrival; and since, on the authority of those
very

very credentials, he has treated so many months with the Ministers of Spain; and even signed several public acts. My Lord Lexington has indeed, we find, given a note under his hand, at the instance of the Marquis de Bedmar, that he does not doubt, but that the style given by the late King William, in his letter to his Catholic Majesty, of the 19th of April, 1701, will be followed for the future. Her Majesty cannot, however, in the next credentials which are given, and which she has already ordered should be prepared, make use of any other style than that which was, by the expedient above-mentioned, provisionally settled. The titles of his Catholic Majesty must depend on the settlement of dominion in Europe, which shall take place when the peace is become general; and if the Queen should in so solemn a manner, specifically determine them before-hand, you must agree, Sir, that she would expose herself to the absurdity of giving a style, which the King of Spain himself may think fit in some instances to depart from.

Besides which consideration, there occurs another to her Majesty, of no small importance: you know, and your Court cannot

be ignorant, how much industry has been used by the enemies of peace, not only in this kingdom, but in all other places, to insinuate and to endeavour to raise jealousies, by persuading that on one hand, the renunciations will not be esteemed hereafter binding, if the cases should happen, against which they are made; and on the other hand, that the cessions will be as little regarded, if ever the opportunity of reannexing what has been by them alienated, should present itself; and therefore that this peace cannot be looked upon as definitive, or sufficient to prevent the revival of those disputes, which are, as these people would have believed, only suspended for a time. Now, Sir, the Queen is unwilling to afford so much colour to these malicious suggestions, which are calculated to perplex the minds of men, and to keep our animosity from subsiding, and, as she imagines would be occasioned if she consented to give the King your master, all the titles which were made use of by his predecessors, even those which he has, in the most solemn manner, departed from all right to claim. In a word, by insisting on a point to which the Queen cannot yield, his Catholic Ma-

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jeſty will expoſe her to a very great difficulty, will render that diſpute public, the very ſuſpicion of which, muſt give great advantage to thoſe who continue the war, and occaſion a whole train of inconveniencies; whereas, by purſuing the form hitherto obſerved, all theſe things are avoided, and nothing is given up on the part of Spain, but his Catholic Maſteſty is at liberty to demand on this head what he ſhall think proper.

Since the writing thus much of my diſpatch, Mr. Secretary Bromley has communicated to me, the minutes of what has been agreed between your Plenipotentiaries and thoſe of Portugal (a copy * of which minutes

* *Minutes agreed between the Plenipotentiaries of Spain and thoſe of Portugal, at Utrecht.*

“ La colonie du Sacrament ſera reſtituée dans l’eſpace de après la ratification de ce traité, pour être poſſédée par le Roi de Portugal en toute propriété, comme ſa Maſteſté la poſſédoit immédiatement avant le commencement de cette guerre. Cependant il ſera réſervé au Roi d’Eſpagne la faculté d’offrir au Roi de Portugal un équivalent pour la dite colonie, au contentement du Roi de Portugal, & il ſera accordé le terme de pour offrir & examiner le dit équivalent; & en cas que le dit offre ſoit accepté, la colonie ſera donnée en échange au Roi d’Eſpagne; ſ’il n’eſt pas accepté, la colonie reſtera au Roi de Portugal, comme fuſſit eſt dans cet article.

“ Quant à l’affaire de l’aſſiento, & des vaiſſeaux, on a cru qu’on pourroit convenir de compenſer la prétention des vaiſſeaux,

minutes I here inclose). By them, Sir, you see that peace is made, if the two Courts of Madrid and Lisbon approve what their respective Ministers have settled; the approbation of the latter, I think, I dare answer for. For God's sake, use your utmost industry to procure the approbations of the former. I have often told you, and I repeat to you, that the Queen cannot abandon the King of Portugal; she must see him safe out of the war, and she must risk every thing, even those interests which are nearest to her, in this cause. I have nothing to add, but my excuses for so long a letter, and my sincere assurances of being, with all esteem, &c.

B.

seaux, sur tout ce qui est illiquide dans l'affiento, comme aussi sur l'héritage de Don Francisco Bernardo, de même que sur les prises de vaisseaux, qui pourroient avoir été faites sur les Portugais, à l'occasion de cette guerre; le Portugal se chargeant de contenter le marchand Anglois, Hodges, pour ses prétensions sur les dits vaisseaux; bien-entendu que le liquide porté par la transaction doit être payé.

“Quant aux maisons, on rappellera l'article 8me du traité de 1668, & on le confirmera de nouveau, et bonne justice se fera, tant en Espagne qu'en Portugal, à un chacun des particuliers qui auront quelque chose à prétendre à ces égards.

“On conviendra du terme de quatre à cinq mois, pour la restitution d'Albuquerque, la Puebla, Hondar, la colonie du Sacrament, et de toutes autres places dont on pourroit s'être emparé de côté et d'autre, en aucune partie du monde, dans l'état où elles étoient au commencement de la guerre.”

From Mr. Prior.*

MY DEAR LORD,

Paris, October 16th-27th, 1713.

WE are all very jocund upon the distribution of our several quantities of your present, which by the inclosed account you will see I have made like a prudent and honest man; as to the latter, our Duchesse de Noailles will not believe a word. *Matthieu est fripon naturellement; il en a bien la mine: Pardi! il a volé la moitié de mon eau-de-miel, il l'a donné à sa religieuse défroquée,* is the return for all my goodness to her. I think, I have done all well, in giving Madame Parabère† a share, as from your command, especially, since Madame de Torcy will give it to her in the manner she may best like it. If you would have any thing bought for you, pray think of it in time; and pray write to me, for I hear from nobody else, either as to the public or my own private affairs. I am ever, as I ought to be, my dear Lord, yours,

MATT.

* Private.

† This Lady was first favourite with the regent Duke of Orleans.

From

From Mr. Prior.

Unicissimo Domino de Bolingbroke.

MATTHEUS.

Paris, November 1st, 1713.

THE large letter that accompanies this, tells you, my dear Lord, in what manner I have obeyed your commands. As to our Lady Dowager *, you did not know her, I find, as I have done by twenty years' experience : she takes care that the child shall not see me, carries him to-day into the country, under pretence of his health, to a house of the Abbé Gouvernet †. That blessed Protestant family too, on your side, did they not know of this hopeful expedition? You say right, that you imagine this Medea will give us all trouble ; nothing can give more : she cries and sighs ; but I know her sighs to be wind, and her tears to be water. The little devil, her husband, had once a knife in his hand, to go and kill her ; what a puppy was I to hinder him ! Adieu, my dear Lord, God keep us all from such wives, and above

* Jersey.

† Her intention was probably to bring up her son in the Roman Catholic religion.

all, from such widows. I hear of myself from the Dutch Gazette only.

Adieu, your's ever,

MATT.

I am half afraid the Abbé* has been tampering in this Jerfæan flight, and I have half accused him of it. If it be so, he ought to be hanged, I hope it is not so. Your Palma is found excellent, your health is drunk, and all is as it ought to be upon that head.

Monsieur de Torcy, and the Duke de Noailles, will write to you.

From Mr. Prior ‡.

MY DEAR LORD, N.B.

Paris, November 2nd-13th, 1713.

MONSIEUR de Torcy goes a little too far, when he says, her Majesty was assured the Catalans would submit, upon the terms mentioned in the letter; and this you will see by my letters to your Lordship upon the subject; it was he that urged, that as to the privileges they had pretended to, they were such as could not reasonably be asked, or

* Probably Gaultier, who was her Confessor.

‡ Private.

could

could possibly be granted; upon which, I said, as your letter warranted me, that her Majesty thought reasonable accommodation might be made, and would concur with the Christian King in that behalf; this is only a little observation of my own to your Lordship, for the thing stands, I believe, as you could desire it.

The Politiconi dine with me, Mesnager, Iberville, Anison, Alsfielt, and the Duke of Richmond; I am preparing to receive them, as soon as I have told you, I am ever and inviolably your's,

MATT.

From Mr. Prior.*

Paris, November 23rd, 1713.

I FANCY I have not finished my letter to the Secretary of State, till I have added a word to dear Lord Bolingbroke. I thought it of moment to hasten Mr. Iberville's departure, and have accordingly done so. Upon a new sollicitation from Monsieur Calandrini, I have given a memorial from him to Monsieur Desmarets, and have again enjoined

* Private.

B b 4

Monsieur

Monfieur de Torcy, to repeat his good instances in his behalf, which he promised me to do to-morrow morning, Desmarets being here. The Duchefs of Portsmouth thinks ſhe is mightily beloved in England, not remembering that an Anachroniſm of forty years, makes a great difference as well in love as politics. She plagues my ſoul out about her coming into England, and I believe you will have your ſhare of her importunities by her proxy there.

Pray ſend me Barton, for meſſenger I have none. Where is General Roſs? When am I to come home? What fort of thing is to become of me? I have a miniature Venus, in a plain box, making for you; if I thought there was a finer picture of the kind in the world, I would not ſend it to you; all that I deſire is, that you would not promiſe it to any body before you ſee it, two hours after you have received it, I take it for granted, it is gone. Adieu, my Lord; nobody loves you, or has ſo much reaſon to love you, as your friend,

MATT.

Lady Jerſey lets me ſee her but very ſlenderly. Jacob Tonſon is here, the dog is
a kind

a kind of a convert ; but can the leopard change his spots ? He says the Duke of Marlborough will pass the winter at Antwerp, seems very quiet, and mindful only of his health ; once more,

My Lord, your ever.

To Mr. Prior.

SIR,

Windfor, December 2nd, 1713.

I CANNOT finish as a Secretary ; I must always conclude my dispatches to you as a friend. Let me thank you a thousand times for the good-nature and concern, which you show in Monsieur Calandrini's behalf ; had you seen that family in the plenty, which I have known them enjoy, and which they made the most generous use of, you would be still more touched with their misfortunes. For God's sake, convince the Duchess of Portsmouth, as civilly as you can, that it is impossible she should be welcome here to any one creature ; what can she expect, when she has the recollection of a thousand invidious

dious things to struggle with, new favours to ask, and no beauty to plead her cause?

I am obliged to you for the Venus beforehand; let the picture be as fine as possible, I shall value it chiefly as a mark of your affection. Be so good as to remember the commissions which I have given you in the letter, which Elcock carried; I cannot recollect the name of the author of the Travels, I desire you to buy me, but Mr. Anison will tell it you. I hear he is to send or bring the book to Dr. Arbuthnot. I believe our three Commissaries will be Mr. Whitworth, Sir Joseph Martyn, and Mr. Frederick Herne; but as the blank is not yet filled up, I could not mention their names in my other dispatch, neither is it proper you should to any one, till you hear again from me. We expect my Lord Treasurer here to-morrow, the death of a favourite daughter *, has confined him several days. As soon as he comes, the Commissaries will, I imagine, be declared, and some other things, of which, God willing, at some other time. Monsieur de la Faye, who brought me a letter from Monsieur de Torcy, returns, I hear, in a

* The Marchioness of Caermarthen.

very

very short time to France. By him, I will write to our friend, on the subject of commerce, as, I believe, my Lord Treasurer intends likewise to do. You shall be farther instructed on this head in two or three days. In the mean time, adieu. I am ever, &c.

B.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Windfor Castle, December 3rd, 1713.

I CONFESS the latter part of your Grace's letter of the 23rd of November, which I received this morning, gave me much more concern than the former part of it. I am infinitely more troubled to hear that you are ill, than that Broderick is chosen. May your health be soon restored, and your Grace be soon at liberty to confirm it, by returning into Britain. The Queen, before whom I have laid your Grace's letter, and that which I received from Sir John Stanley, is not surprized at the events of the first day of the Session.

It was to be expected that the Whigs would unite, when they found no tempera-
ment

ment taken in the city dispute; and it was almost beyond hope, that the Church party should be able, without any division or acquiescence of the other, to prevail, especially when Broderick had so much the start in solicitation. To this conjuncture, therefore, the failure of the Crown's recommendation is to be ascribed; and that conjuncture war begot, long before your Grace took the business of Ireland upon you.

To disapprove a Speaker, is, indeed, the undoubted prerogative of the Crown, but her Majesty seemed to be of your Grace's opinion, that the exercise of it, at this season, might have been hurtful, and was not necessary. Such a step would have united, in a steady opposition, all those who voted against us in the election of a Speaker; many of whom, it is to be hoped, were only engaged in that one point, and will, on other occasions, be influenced by your Grace.

I have, I think, the honour of your Grace's private letter of the 17th and 19th of last month, to acknowledge; your Grace will, I persuade myself, easily believe that if I omitted to answer them punctually, it was purely to avoid giving you any unnecessary trouble,

trouble, when you had so much to do, and I nothing to say.

As to Dr. Friend *, I have known him long, and cannot be without some partiality for him, since he was of Christ Church. He has excellent parts, is a thorough scholar, and, I am told, is very able in his profession. I am quite ignorant where he designs to reside, or what he intends to do, not having these several months had any conversation with him, but I hear he is gone to attend your Grace. When I hear again that it is your Grace's pleasure I should do so, I will not fail to speak to the Queen, in the manner you direct. I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To Sir John Stanley.

S I R,

Windfor Castle, December 3rd, 1713.

I RECEIVED this morning the favour of your letter, and am very glad that I had the good fortune to say any thing to encourage you to do what I most earnestly desire. It is pretty plain that our friends of the

* The Physician.

Church interest were the less inclined to come into any expedient, because they depended on a majority in the House of Commons; and, to say truth to you, though I have not owned so much to them, in my opinion they judged on that supposition right, since if the Parliament was to be of the same mind with the Council, no disorder could happen from the continuance of the city dispute.

It is, I think, as plain that the Whigs' respect to the Queen and her Lord Lieutenant ended in this, that they would have dropped their Speaker, if they could have compounded themselves into a better thing. The former have, indeed, been out in their calculations, but I am not surprized at it, if what is writ me just now from London be true; it is said confidently there, that nineteen officers voted against you. I hope I am not ill-natured, but I confess myself extremely tired of that lenity, which suffers a fleet and army to declare for a faction against the Crown, even where not so much as the trite pretence of conscience, that mark of hypocrisy, can be advanced.

It was matter of satisfaction to the Queen,

to observe, by your letter to me, that the contest was carried on with order and decency. Broderick's speech made her laugh. Adieu, dear Sir John: hasten your Council's report, and believe me ever, inviolably, &c.

B.

P.S. I would not trouble my Lord Duke, in the midst of much business and of bad health, with a private affair, which I must take the liberty of mentioning: Major-general Evans, who has as much merit as gallantry and honour can heap on a soldier, is gone to his post, ashamed of having been an hour later in setting out than the date of his commission. Young Hawley, his Lieutenant-colonel, had the misfortune to break his bones in fox-hunting with me; they were to go together, and I ventured to answer for Mr. Evans's delay.—Be so good as to show him your countenance.

To Lady Newburg.

MADAM,

Windsor Castle, December 3rd, 1713.

I DELAYED until now answering the honour of your letter, from Chester, in hopes
of

of an opportunity of serving you effectually, which I should not have failed to improve, and might then have had the satisfaction to have told you that I had been useful to you. Do me the justice to be persuaded, that all the little credit I have shall most readily be employed to procure an augmentation of the pension granted my Lord Bellew, which, I own to your Ladyship, I was extremely surprized to find fixed to so small a sum, and to so late a date; but as I have always spoke sincerely and freely to you, give me leave to continue to do the same, and to tell you, that you are under the influence of the hardest planet that ever yet reigned, if a Lord-lieutenant of Ireland, a Lord-chamberlain, and, to say no more, a Duke of Shrewsbury, cannot prevail, in so compassionate a case, for so near a relation. His Grace is in Ireland, he sees the circumstances of your family, and is, by consequence, an eye-witness both of your distress and of my Lord Bellew's zeal for the Queen's service:—Can there be a more natural handle than this, for him to take hold of; and, either by letter now, or by personal application when he comes over,
to

to ask the Queen such an addition as may render her Majesty's bounty proportioned to your occasions?

You will not, I persuade myself, Madam, imagine that I have, in giving you this advice, the least view of saving any expence of trouble or of interest. I am ready to take any part which you prescribe, and will not be wanting to solicit your cause; but this method is what, in my conscience, I think would succeed; and I am sure if this does not, no other can. I attend the honour of your farther commands, and am, &c.

B.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, December 8th, 1713.

ONE of your Majesty's Messengers is this evening arrived from Paris, and has brought me a voluminous packet. Mr. Prior's letters are of the 14th of this month, N.S. He incloses copies of the memorials which have passed between the Prince Eugene and the Marechal de Villars, at Rastadt; Monsieur de Torcy gave them to him, by

the King's order, but exacted a promise from him, that he should communicate them to no person but me, and to me purely for your Majesty's information. It is impossible, such is the length of these papers, to give your Majesty an account of them, article by article, in a letter. When I have the honour to attend on Friday, at Windsor, they shall be laid before your Majesty.

In the mean time, I take leave to observe, that the Emperor seems to rise in his demands as he decreases in strength; to determine to sacrifice to his passion those unhappy Princes and States who lie on the frontier, and to justify France, as Mr. Prior expresses it, in ruining the Empire. The expressions of Prince Eugene are, in many places, rude; and the answers are very biting, though more civilly turned. France certainly wants and desires a general peace; and the King, upon this occasion, again repeats his promise, to take such measures, as your Majesty shall judge most conducive to that end.

I most earnestly hope, that in the new Parliament, which we are now shortly to meet, such an union will be created, and
such

such a spirit raised, in your Majesty's service, as may give you leisure and strength to influence foreign affairs, in that manner you have done, and always ought to do.

Monsieur d'Iberville, the Envoy, appointed to reside here, is to embark next Thursday, at Calais. The Ministers of France assure us, that he is impowered to facilitate, to your Majesty's satisfaction, the treaty of the Commissaries of Trade.

I am in great hopes young Mr. Villars * will be saved from ruin, and got home again; Mr. Prior has acted very honestly, and vigorously in that affair.

Lord Lexington writes to me, on the 27th of November, that he should set out that very day, on his journey homewards, by the way of Portugal. Your Majesty's orders had been received at Gibraltar, and due care is taken for the obeying of them.

The inclosed came in Mr. Prior's packet, and was delivered by the Duke d'Aumont. I am not informed from whom the letter is.

I am, &c.

B.

* Lady Jersey's Son.

C c 2

To

To Sir John Stanley.

S I R,

Windfor-Castle, December 15th, 1713.

THOUGH with the letters of the 8th of this month from Dublin, I received none from you; the contents however, of those, which I have seen, make it in some sort necessary, that I should give you the trouble of one from me. You will imagine very easily that the general account, which my Lord Duke's public dispatch gives of the heats which broke out in council, on the occasion of debating the judge's report, and the more particular accounts which come by private information, afford matter of much concern here. If the Council is divided, and if the disputes are among them carried on with bitterness and passion, little room is left to hope that the ferments in Parliament, in the city, in the kingdom, will be allayed? On the contrary, all these must be increased.

It results very plainly from hence, that no time must be lost, in making those of one mind, by whose good or bad influence, Ireland will settle in peace, or run into de-

struction : this I take to be evident enough, and I believe it is no less so, that if no compromise can be made in the Council, which we take to be the present case, either from the nature of the dispute, or from the temper of the party, the weight of the government on your side must go along with those who are the friends of your friends on this side. For it would be a strange absurdity to have a Whig administration in Ireland, and a Tory administration in Britain.

When the measures for my Lord Duke's conduct were first concerted here, it was hoped that the unfortunate dispute, about the Lord Mayor, might be ended, if not before the elections, at least before the meeting of Parliament. This was a most desirable end, and to this it would have been reasonable to have sacrificed something, by falling on any expedient to gain time, without giving up either the cause, or the honour of the council. But the case is now become vastly different, from what it was then ; the Parliament is now met, and the only consideration, for which it would have been worth while to have compounded, subsists no longer ;

since a Speaker is chose by the Whigs, in opposition to the Queen's recommendation, and they are determined to carry to the utmost length, the city dispute.

It may, perhaps, be said, that, notwithstanding these incidents, the tenor of the Whig conduct, if they are gently dealt withall, will be right, and the public business of the nation dispatched with unanimity.

The force of this argument, would, I confess, be considerable, were we to suppose the majority of Whigs so great in Parliament, and every where else; that they could prevail to make, and be justified in making, the public service subservient to their private party schemes. But we are willing to hope better things: We look on their majority to be so slight, that an open declaration of the Queen, or the united endeavours of her servants against them, would turn the scale, and securely, though not smoothly, wind up the Session. Every way, it seems we are to have a struggle. It only remains to determine, whether, in this struggle, we shall take part with our friends, and by these means secure both them and the Queen's service from any danger; or whether we shall

take part with our enemies, secure this success, for fear they should succeed, and leave ourselves, our friends, and, above all, the Queen's service, at their mercy?

I have writ thus freely and largely to you, because, in a conjuncture so critical as the present, you cannot be too soon informed of the sense of your fellow-servants, and, as I humbly presume, of her Majesty. My Lord Treasurer tells me, that he does himself the honour to write to the Duke of Shrewsbury.

The Queen commands me to enquire of you, whether on the establishment there is a Governor of Galway? I believe some application has been made to her, in behalf of Colonel Peyton; let me recommend to you, an officer of Nland's regiment, whose name is Naizor. After a thousand hardships which he endured, the Queen gave him a troop. He should have been, in justice, at this time a Major; let no other come over his head; his story would move your compassion.

It is time to ask your pardon for so tedious a letter, and to assure you, that I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, December 17th, 1713.

I HAVE this morning seen Monsieur d'Iberville, the Envoy of France, who professes to have the best disposition, and to be instructed, as far as possible, to facilitate the conclusion of what relates to commerce.

He asked an audience, and I promised to inform him of your Majesty's pleasure.

I humbly submit, whether it might not be proper to see him on the first occasion? he has, I perceive, besides his public letter, a private one from the King to your Majesty.

I have a letter from Prior, of the 18th, N.S. which contains no one thing, worth your Majesty's attention; he had not then received the letters which were dispatched from Windsor, the 3rd, O.S. but I reckon they came to his hands the same day, or the day after, it was writ, your Majesty's messenger having passed through Boulogne early on Monday was seven-night.

This moment the post brings me letters from Ireland, of the 10th and 11th; the Duke of Shrewsbury's are of the former date;

date ; the bill of supply had been read once*, and was ordered a second reading. It was expected that the Whigs would bring the dispute, about the choice of the Mayor of Dublin, into Parliament, and my Lord Lieutenant seems at a loss how to conduct himself in this case.

His Grace desires that your Majesty's letter, for passing the licence to the convocation to do business, may likewise be sent ; I had prepared none, Mr. Attorney having, while the Duke was here, represented that none was necessary ; I will now take care to get it ready in due form, and to bring it with me to Windsor.

My Lord Chancellor of Ireland, writes to me, on the 11th, and gives me an account of the transactions of that day, in the House of Commons, with relation to himself. There is a custom, it seems, at Dublin, that the Lords Justices give leave to players or musicians, upon their applications, when they have benefit days for their private advantage, to insert in their bills, that the play is acted, or the music performed, by their order.

* The Whigs there had declared they would vote no money.

This

This little encouragement, which was never refused, was granted about six months ago, by my Lord Chancellor, to a very fine trumpet, who went over thither. Afterwards, his Lordship was informed, that the fellow had formerly turned Papist, upon which, knowing the malice of the faction, my Lord sent to the Chief Justice to examine the man, and to deal with him according to law. Your Majesty will hardly think this a foundation for a Parliamentary proceeding, and yet the moderation of the Whigs endeavoured to make it one.

They begun by mentioning the great danger they were in, of the Pretender's landing, and ordered heads of a bill to be brought in, to offer a great reward to any person, that should bring him, dead or alive. After which, Colonel Southwell moved, that my Lord Chancellor should be declared an encourager of Popery, and a friend to the Pretender; this motion was supported with so much heat, that they were near drawing swords in the House: at last, Southwell desired leave to withdraw his motion, which was granted. But surely in justice to the Chancellor, and above all in duty to your Majesty,

Majesty, whose seal he has the honour to bear, the matter should not have been suffered to go off thus; the Tories however acquiesced.

Your Majesty will judge, from this example, what this set of men may be capable of undertaking, as soon as they have such a majority as they can depend upon. At present, indeed, they are the greater number but by a few, and many of this number are dependent on your Majesty immediately; but they are hastening to garble the House, and since the election of the Speaker, at least thirty new petitions, against Churchmen, have been preferred, which were not thought of before. I submit, with that humble deference which becomes me, but a warm and unfeigned zeal for your Majesty's safety, whether it is not time for the weight to be thrown into the honest and loyal scale? I will only presume to add, that the event of these things in Ireland, will have either a very good or a very bad effect in our Parliament, whenever that shall meet.

I have letters of the 4th of December, from Madrid; my Lord Lexington set out the 28th of November, and before his departure,

parture, writ to the people of Barcelona, to conjure them to submit, and to offer them still, notwithstanding their resistance and obstinacy, the terms settled at Utrecht for them: this, my Lord was empowered by the King of Spain to do, to whom the King of France had writ, as he promised your Majesty he would. God knows, whether your Majesty will be able to overcome evil with good, but more cannot be done, and none but your Majesty would have had the charity to have done so much.

The orders have been given, as your Majesty was pleased some time ago to direct me, to instruct my Lord Lexington to obtain them, concerning Gibraltar, so that I hope that garrison will be for the future easy.

I have sat this morning with the Board of Trade, and I hope, I have so settled every thing with them, as will leave my Lords of the Council little to do when they meet tomorrow, on the head of the French treaty of trade.

I have sent my Irish letters to my Lord Treasurer, that he may have the more time to turn those matters in his thoughts, and
be

be the better prepared to offer his humble advice to your Majesty upon them.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

De Monsieur de Torcy.

Verfailles, le 14^{me} Décembre, 1713.

SI je ne favois, my Lord, à quel point Monsieur d'Iberville fouhaite de vous plaire, & de mériter l'honneur de votre estime, je ne prendrois pas la liberté de vous demander pour lui, l'effet de vos bontés, dont il veut certainement se rendre digne. J'ose en répondre pour lui, & parmi beaucoup de bonnes qualités, qui ont déterminé le choix du Roi en sa faveur, la principale pour moi, est le respect qu'il a pour vous, my Lord, fondé sur ce qu'il a connu par lui-même & sur ce qu'il a su d'ailleurs. J'ai eu souvent le plaisir d'en parler avec lui, & j'ai compté lorsque sa Majesté l'a choisi, qu'il me donneroit souvent de vos nouvelles. Il n'y en a point que je desire avec plus d'empressement, principalement si j'apprends, comme je l'espère, que vous me conserverez toujours quelque part dans l'honneur de votre amitié. Vous savez, my Lord, com-
bien

bien elle m'est précieuse, & je vous supplie de croire que personne ne sauroit être avec un attachement plus véritable & plus sincère que je suis, votre, &c.

DE TORCY.

A Monsieur de Torcy.

MONSIEUR,

Du Château de Windsor, ce 29me Décembre, 1713.

IL ne seroit pas juste de laisser partir Monsieur de la Faye, sans le charger des remerciemens très humbles, que j'ai à vous faire, de ce que vous m'avez donné l'occasion de connoître un aussi honnête homme.

Je me flatte, qu'il n'est pas tout-à-fait mécontent de moi ; ce qu'il y a de sûr, c'est que je me suis séparé de lui avec un très sensible regret. Il vous rendra compte de l'audience, qu'il a eu de la Reine, de ce que sa Majesté lui a dit, & de ce que j'ai lui expliqué par son ordre. Ainsi, vous voulez bien, Monsieur, que je me remets à ce qu'il aura l'honneur de vous raconter de bouche. Je me bornerai à vous dire que les affaires de commerce, se finissant heureusement, en peut répondre que les dispositions, dans ce pays, seront telles que
vous

vous les fouhaitez, & que la Reine se trouvera par-là en état de prendre de mesures vigoureuses pour concourir avec le Roi à vaincre l'opiniâtreté des Impériaux, & autres ennemis du repos de l'Europe. Je suis, &c.

B.

To the Lord Chancellor of Ireland.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, December 22nd, 1713.

I HAVE before me, your Lordship's letters of the 3rd and 11th of this month, to acknowledge; of which the last is to me, and was to the Queen, to whom I took the liberty to read every line of it, most surprizing.

When the Duke of Shrewsbury went from home, we were very little informed of the true state of the affairs in Ireland; and on the other hand we were hard pressed in point of time; it is therefore no wonder if her Majesty's Councils ran into any expedient, which, saving the cause, and saving the honour of her government, might get over the Session, and give a year's time to turn ourselves as to the dispute in the city of Dublin.

Little

Little did we imagine that the Lord Mayor might legally hold over.

Had you sent us at first (allow this friendly reproach) what you sent us at last, the first report of Mr. Attorney-General had never been made; and you would have been solicited to come into no expedient which might be the least disagreeable to you.

I mention this the rather, because I hope your Lordship, and the rest of our friends in Ireland, will for the future suffer no information, necessary for the Queen's service, and the good of the Tory cause, to be wanting in time. Do your part, and you may be assured that, on this side of the water, there are a number of men, who never did, nor never will bow the knee to Baal, and who will support the Church interest at the expence of every thing that is dear to men.

By express last night, I gave my Lord Lieutenant notice, that her Majesty had resolved to make the Bishop of Raphoe, Primate *, and by this packet I have the pleasure to send the Queen's letter, in due form.

On Monday or Tuesday, I hope to transmit orders concerning the bishoprics vacant,

* Archbishop of Armagh, Dr. Thomas Lindsay.

which

which will be equally acceptable ; and I may venture to assure you, without any risque of forfeiting my reputation, that the Queen will go on in this style, and fairly try the event to the last extremities, whether she, at the head of the loyal party, cannot overcome the factious Whigs of Ireland ; when I say the factious Whigs, I mean, the whole party without any exception, but of those who are pleased, by their conduct, to except themselves.

I should not use these expressions, nor write in this manner, to your Lordship, upon slight grounds. Things are come to a crisis in both kingdoms, and I am verily persuaded they will take a better turn, than you or I ever expected. The evil of Ireland will be productive of good to both nations.

What is done for your son, is so little equal to the merits of his father, that I dare hardly make my compliments to your Lordship upon it ; neither should I, had not I been informed that it is what your Lordship yourself desired.

I beg your Lordship to look on me, as one who has a true value for your courage, integrity, and capacity, and who will upon all

occasions show himself, my Lord, your Lordship's, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, December 22nd, 1713.

I AM ashamed of giving your Majesty these frequent troubles, but the pressing occasions of the service, will, I hope, plead my excuse.

The inclosed warrant, which I received from the Treasurer, and which is to be countersigned by my Lord High Treasurer, requires the utmost dispatch, there being but two days of the time prescribed remaining.

I am, Madam, your Majesty's, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, December 22d, 1713.

AS much in haste as I was yesterday, I think, on looking over your Grace's public letter of the 8th, that all the points, which
2 required

required her Majesty's orders, are answered; it therefore only remains, that I should acknowledge the honour of your private letter of the 12th.

The Queen, my Lord, did indeed not judge the measure proposed of disapproving Broderick, obnoxious as he is, and ought to be, to every good man's sight. But could her Majesty have foreseen, what has since happened, I am apt to think this, or even a more violent measure, would have appeared to her but an adequate remedy to the disease. The Whig party have a majority, and, if they are suffered to go on, will sit, I suppose, alone in the House; they may perhaps give the supply, and utter general expressions of duty and zeal for her Majesty, but the particular persons, against whom their resentments are to be shown, cannot be exposed to their rage, in honour, in justice, in prudence. I will only say, upon this occasion, that your Grace's friends here are all persuaded that all the money which the Irish House of Commons is asked to give, is not to be put into competition with the safety of one of our friends, much less with that of our whole body, and yet our whole body

is at stake in the present contest. Should that faction rise and prevail in Ireland, against which we have done so much in Britain, the consequence in both places is obvious. Should the farther supply, after the three months' bill, not pass, I would not call it a misfortune. There are ways of supplying this deficiency, and among others, I dare affirm, that the Commons of Britain would be thankful to her Majesty, if she rendered it necessary for them to do it. It had been happy if your Grace, at your first going over, could have tempered matters so as to have suspended the dispute about the Lord Mayor for this Session ; but it had been more happy, if we had then known what we now authentically know, that the Mayor's holding over is legal.

In a word, on one hand, there is the supply, on the other (and that seems the only composition which the Whigs are ready to come into) there is sacrificing our friends in Ireland, who are the weakest; irreconcilably and justly provoking our friends in Britain, who, God be praised ! are the strongest. The proceedings of the Whigs have, I make no doubt, prepared your Grace to expect that the
Queen

Queen will take more vigorous measures; and show her inclinations faster than she first intended. She therefore has signed the usual letter for translating the Bishop of Raphoe to the Archbishopric of Armagh, and will I believe, as to the other Bishoprics, signify her pleasure in very few days. It will be happy, if these admonitions serve to remind some people of their duty, and enable your Grace to prevail on them not to provoke clemency too far. Should these fail, I hope, and I believe, the Queen will go every other length necessary to restrain the passion and fury of such proceedings, as the Commons have given, and show a farther design of giving into. You, my Lord, agreeably to the mildness of the Queen we serve, and to the goodness of your own nature, have endeavoured by gentle treatment to reconcile, and by reason to persuade. After this, when this has proved vain, why should the government and the whole church-party, be afraid to charge a faction created by chance, preserved by our iniquities, and fattened by our misfortunes. The digression, as your Grace is pleased to call it, concerning your health was most acceptable news to me, who al-

ways professed myself, since I had first the honour of being admitted to your acquaintance, and who will, at all times, and on every occasion, demonstrate, that I am, sincerely and respectfully, my Lord, &c.

B.

To Sir John Stanley.

S I R,

Whitehall, December 22d, 1713.

THE only letter of yours, which I have before me to acknowledge, is that of the 10th, a day which has remarkably shown, by the treatment which one of the foremost of the Queen's servants met with, how fruitless of good effects all moderation, and how necessary some rough handling are become. I am not surprized, that the House of Commons sits day and night to determine elections; their majority I mean. That of the Whigs could not be at first considerable, since it is certain that there are at least 143 staunch churchmen elected; but I make no doubt of the care which will be taken to remedy this defect, and to garble the House into unanimity. As sensible as some people
are

are of their strength, and as able as their managers are, it is still in my Lord Lieutenant's power, backed by the Queen's whole authority, and by the might of a British Parliament, for this too may, I think, without presumption, be affirmed, to prove too strong and too able for them. I should be glad to see the supply given, if it is not, the Queen's affairs are not without resource.

I am, ever your's, &c.

B.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, December 23d, 1713.

I HAVE got the bill upon the warrant which your Majesty was pleased yesterday to sign. I humbly beg your Majesty's dispatch of it, and that it may pass by immediate warrant, in which case, the service will not suffer by delay. As the first notice did not come to me till yesterday morning, I could not forward it faster. The Committee of Council sits this morning, and I have appointed the Ministers of France and of Sicily, to be with me in the evening, so that

D d 4

I hope

I hope to conclude to-day, all the business which could not be done at Windsor, and to return to my attendance on your Majesty to-morrow. I am, &c.

To Mr. Whitworth.

S I R,

Whitehall, December 23d, 1713.

YOU will have been informed by this time, that you are first in the Commission, as you desired, and as I think, and always did think it reasonable and expedient for the service. My last letters from France, give me reason to believe, that the Commissioners of France will very soon arrive here. Let me therefore intreat you, not only to turn in your own thoughts every thing which relates to the important business you are to transact, but let me likewise beg that you would call on your brethren, and have some few meetings with them, that so when the French do arrive, we may be ready to treat and to clear those ambiguities, which faction at home has cast over the treaty of Commerce, and which running abroad may perhaps be willing to take

take advantage of. I have ordered the papers, which were delivered by the Commissioners of Trade, to my Lords of the Council last week, to be put into your hands. When I come next from Windsor, whither I go to-morrow early, I will take care to have the place of your meeting, and other necessary forms settled. I am, &c.

B.

To Mr. Murray.*

SIR,

Whitehall, December 23d, 1713.

I SHOULD have thanked you sooner for the favour of your's, which was in the style I expected from your good temper and good sense. I have always observed, that want of birth and want of understanding render men most punctilious; those who have both, know that their esteem in the world, is built on a better foundation than form.

I shall be some days out of town, but I hope, that you and your brethren, will have some conversations together on the business

* Another of the Commissaries.

you

you are to transact, which is certainly, as the Queen herself told you, of the utmost importance. Mr. Whitworth has in his hands, the papers prepared by the Board of Trade. I am, &c.

B.

To Sir Joseph Martin.

SIR,

Whitehall, December 23^d, 1713.

BEING to go to Windsor, to-morrow, where I shall continue several days, I take this way of desiring you to think yourself, and to concert with your brethren about the manner of treating with the French Commissaries, who may be suddenly expected here.

The moment I return to town, your Secretary, your place of meeting, and other matters of form, shall be settled, to your satisfaction.

Mr. Whitworth has in his hands, what my Lords of Trade have prepared for your instruction. I am, Sir, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To

To Mr. Frederick Herne.

S I R,

Whitehall, December 23d, 1713.

SINCE my sudden return from hence to Windsor, hinders me from seeing you, allow me by letter to acquaint you, that the French Commissary may be soon expected here.

Mr. Whitworth has in his hands such papers as my Lord Commissioners of Trade have prepared towards your instructions, and I believe, you will think, that some hours will be well spent in meeting with your brethren, to consider of them, and of such other matters as may occur to you, for the better carrying on of the important work.

As soon as I come back to town, I will take care to fix your Secretary, your place of meeting, and such other forms. I am, Sir, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

From

From Mr. Prior.*

Henrico optimo salutem.

Paris, Christmas-day, 1713.

I WILL be sure to perform your commissions, my Lord, and do every thing you command me. Our Dowager Jersey, refuses to see me or mine; but the boy is a good Protestant, and resolved to tell Monsieur de Torcy so. The Duchess of Portsmouth continues to have a great inclination to pay you a visit in England; I have, and shall dissuade her as much as I can. Pray send Barton, though you may have no great business, for I have no messenger with me, and it may very well happen I may have a sudden occasion of dispatching one to you.

I am, &c.

M. PRIOR.

I think you may count upon it, that the peace will be made. I cannot send your Venus till next return of the messenger.

For God's sake, make an end about these d—— sluices †; let Dick Shelton see you

* Private.

† At Dunkirk.

sometimes,

sometimes, the poor devil's heart is broke ;
cunctando is a sad device, by Monk's leave.
 Adieu, my dear Lord.

Every body takes notice that I have no
 Chaplain, and I do not know if I am to
 stay here, in case I had one, till we came
 to the second lesson.

From Mr. Prior.*

Henrico Colendissimo. MATTHÆUS.

Paris, January 5th, 1714.

I AM very glad to tell you in the inclosed,
 that the 50 or now 70 sols is taken off, as
 your commands intimated. What I speak of
 but a little covertly is, that when I came
 to repeat to Monsieur Desmarets, what we
 had provisionally agreed, and I have already
 writ you word, he went off, said he only
 meant that in case within a month the noti-
 fication was given from this side, we should
 at the same time, take off the *droit* on ours :
 upon this I was (as Gaultier used to call
 it) *sur ma chanterelle*, and took upon me
 to say, as I believe you, my dear Lord,
 would have done, on the like occasion : that

* Private.

I looked

I looked upon myself to be very ill used by this proceeding, that I would vindicate my own veracity and honour, and be justified not only in England, but in France : that I would desire an audience of the King, and tell him the fact as it stood : in short, every thing grew better, the thing is done, and I promised not to write of it. I do it therefore only to yourself, and in case Iberville should speak of it to you ; though possibly he may not, probably he may not ; for not to exaggerate, is it not shameful on Desmaret's side ? so shameful as that he, nor any of his, will mention to Iberville : so let it rest.

I have already told you, that Monsieur de Torcy has promised to visit Lady Jersey, and judge equitably, as he shall find Harry Villars inclined. Her conduct is very extraordinary ; she will not let the child see me, Drift, or any that belong to me. Gaultier has writ very honestly to Monsieur de Torcy, on her subject.

I hope you will like your Venus, since she has met with great approbation here. Pray send me back Jonathan, and let me always have a messenger on this side. I am most truly, and inviolably, yours.

How

How long I shall stay here, I can no more tell, than, had I a fever, when I should be well. Adieu. Pray write a word to Harry Villars, and I will find means to let him have it; you do not imagine how much a letter would spirit and encourage the child. As soon as Monsieur Desmarets and I were so mighty good friends again, I spoke to him again, in favour of Monsieur Calandrini. He again promises that he will do all in his power for the poor gentleman.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, December 31st, 1713.

I HAVE just dispatched by a flying packet, the report of your Majesty's Council to Ireland, and have directed the Post-master to take care that a boat go off with my letters as soon as they arrive at the coast.

I find there must be a letter signed by your Majesty, for making your Primate: I have inclosed one in the usual form, which if it be your Majesty's pleasure to return it me by this messenger, shall be sent to-morrow night. In the mean while, I have let the Duke of Shrewsbury

Shrewsbury know your Majesty's intentions, which in the present posture of affairs cannot be known too soon. I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To Mr. Henry Villars.

DEAR KINSMAN,

Windfor Castle, December 31st, 1713.

THE very dangerous situation in which you are at present, the relation I have to you, and the sincere love I have for you, constrain me to write this letter, which, I hope, will come safe to your hands. Your present, your future, your eternal happiness or misery depend on the resolution which you will now take. If you continue any longer with your mother, you must bid adieu to your family, to your friends, to your country, and to your religion. You must forfeit all that is dear, and renounce all that is sacred: for whatever she may pretend to make you, her true design is to make you a Papist.

If, on the other hand, you have virtue and grace enough, as I persuade myself you have, to know that as you owe something to your mother, so you owe something to yourself,

and infinitely more than both to God; you will find the way of saving yourself easy, and will, in such manner as Mr. Prior shall direct, escape to his house, from whence care will be immediately taken to bring you home. Mr. Prior has the Queen's orders to this effect.

The Queen, who looks on you in great measure as her child, expects this from you, and all your relations and friends join in conjuring you to return to them. For my own part, I long from the bottom of my soul to see you again here; and do assure you, you shall ever find a kinsman, a friend, a father, in your most affectionate, and most faithful cousin and servant,

B.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Windfor Castle, January 5th, 1713.

I HAVE now been confined to this place a fortnight, whilst the rest of the Queen's servants have, for the most part, been at London; so that I have not had so much opportunity of talking with my Lord Treasurer, my Lord

Chancellor, and others, on the present distracted state of Irish affairs, as I could wish; neither, during this whole time, has it been possible to trouble the Queen, with any business, except such as demanded her immediate dispatch. Her Majesty, God be praised! is and has been ever since the second fit, entirely free from the least feeling of her fever; but this distemper discharges itself, as the physicians imagined it would, and wished it might, in a strong fit of the gout.

It is certain, that, when your Grace went to Ireland, we were (at least I am sure, I was very much) strangers to the true state of Irish affairs, our friends having been so faulty to themselves, as never yet to support their own cause early, and in time.

In this situation of doubt, it was the opinion of all the Queen's servants, that the dispute should be compounded, if that might possibly be done, before the sitting of the Parliament; and in such manner as to save the honour of the Council, and of the proceeding of government; and that some expedient of this kind, which your Grace did all in your power to promote, had been fallen upon, I dare say every man in the Queen's Councils

still wishes. But, alas ! my Lord, as our own friends were in hopes of a majority, and therefore tenacious, so the Whigs, for ought I could ever see, were determined not to submit, unless at too dear a rate.

Having Broderick for Speaker, garbling the House of Commons, and attempting to garble the state, these dispositions and these proceedings, had left the Queen no middle path to tread, unless she could resolve to give up her servants, in both kingdoms, tied and bound, into the hands of their inveterate enemies, and to revert back to that state of thralldom, from whence your Grace was a principal instrument of her deliverance.

I assure your Grace, with much sincerity, that I am, as your faithful servant ought to be, extremely touched with the description you are pleased to give of your own situation. But as it will be impossible for me yet to make a step towards obeying the commands you lay upon me, I am willing to hope I may receive other orders from you.

The plain indications, which her Majesty has given of her intentions, may perhaps operate during this recess of Parliament; your Grace has done all which could be done by

mildness to gain. You may therefore, with greater justice and more efficacy, pursue a contrary method, and put yourself at the head of a contest, where the Queen and her two houses of Parliament, in Britain, with the Lords of Ireland, engage against a factious majority of the Commons of the latter kingdom. I have just now orders to go upon some business to London, from whence, or immediately on my return hither, your Grace shall again hear from, my Lord,

Your Grace's, &c.

B.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Windsor Castle, January 5th, 1713-14.

MY brother *, the Dean of St. Patrick's, is, you know, an historian, and has brought forth from folios down to duodecimos. We have often talked him up to an undertaking, which it is some degree of shame to our nation was never yet performed as it ought to be, and which I believe he is fitter for than any man in the Queen's dominions,

* Swift was a member of the club of Brothers.

I mean the writing a complete history of our own country. Rhymer's death creates an opportunity of making this his duty, if your Grace will be so good as to bestow the place of Historiographer upon him *.

I submit this to your Grace's good pleasure, assuring you that in the proposition which I presume to make, I have the public much more in view than Jonathan.

I am, &c.

B.

To Sir John Stanley

S I R,

Whitehall, January 5th, 1713-14.

THOUGH I have not time to give so particular an answer to your letter of the 22d of last month as the matter of it deserves, I must not, however, let the post go away without my thanks, for the kind and full communication which you are pleased to give me. I make no doubt but the

* This place, however, was given away to another person: the Ministers were now divided. Oxford was losing ground, which Bolingbroke was gaining, in the Queen's favour; and Shrewsbury, honest and independant, was disgusted with both.

Whigs professed all you mention, and are glad of the pretence, thin as it is, which they now excuse themselves by ; their drift, however, and the sum of their policy, is easily discovered.

You will give me leave to say, that I see no accident which happened to Mr. Moleworth, but a very disagreeable one to the clergy*. Captain Killegrew, of Wade's regiment, is very much out of order ; and, as I know his case, I took upon me to say, I was confident my Lord Duke would believe me, when I assured him, that it would be cruel to oblige the young fellow for some time to go over, which, I hear, his Colonel insists upon : let me beg you to procure my Lord Duke's licence for him. I am, &c.

B.

A Monsieur le Comte de Montijo.

De Whitehall, ce 14me Janvier, 1713-14.

MES lettres ne sont pas d'une grand prix ; je regrette pourtant beaucoup la perte de

* When the two Houses of Convocation went to the Castle of Dublin, to present their address to the Lord Lieutenant, Mr. Moleworth made use of some insulting expressions, for which he lost his seat in the Privy Council.

quelques

quelques unes de celles, que je me suis donné l'honneur, mon cher Comte, de vous écrire, puisque je ne puis souffrir que vous ayez le moindre soupçon, que la distance de tems ou de lieu soit capable de causer aucune altération dans une amitié sincère & tendre, que je vous ai juré, & que je conserverai avec plus de soin que ma propre vie : les liens de cette amitié m'attachent si étroitement à vous, que votre bonne & votre mauvaise fortune régleront, par une nécessité absolue, le bonheur & le malheur de mon sort. Jugez donc, par cette règle, s'il vous plaît, de la joie que j'ai ressentie quand j'ai vu la distinction, que le Roi Catholique vient de faire de votre mérite, en vous donnant la Toison. Cette grâce vous peut attirer des envieux ; & j'espère que leur nombre s'augmentera, parce que j'espère que le Roi vous renouvellera des marques de sa bonté. On dit que l'envie n'est domptée qu'après la mort : cela peut être en général vrai ; mais la manière la plus sûre ou de la dompter, ou de rendre ses attaques vaines & infructueuses, est de justifier les faveurs de son Prince par le brillant de ses vertus, & par le mérite de ses services. Voilà, mon cher Comte, ce qui

ne vous fera pas difficile, puisque Dieu vous a donné tous les talens nécessaires pour réussir, & toute l'inclination de les bien employer.

La Princesse des Ursins vous dira peut-être ce que je lui ai écrit sur ce chapitre ; je l'aurois fait même si vous n'en eussiez rien dit ; mais je dois, une bonne fois pour toutes, exiger de vous que vous ne preniez plus la peine d'accompagner vos ordres de vos excuses. Cette cérémonie ne convient aucunement au caractère d'ami ; & de plus, les excuses ne sont jamais de saison que lorsqu'il s'agit de quelque chose de désagréable, & vous savez qu'il n'y a rien au monde qui me puisse être si agréable que les occasions de vous rendre service.

Monsieur de Bingley, que vous avez connu ici, sous le nom de Benson, Chancelier des Finances, se prépare en toute diligence pour son ambassade d'Espagne. C'est un des meilleurs sujets que nous ayons, c'est mon ami intime ; pour tel je vous le donne, & pour tel je vous prie de le recevoir.

Adieu, mon aimable Comte, je suis & serai toujours, avec un attachement inviolable, votre, &c.

B.

A Ma-

A Madame la Princesse des Ursins.

De Whitehall, ce 14^{me} Janvier, 1713-14.

VOTRE Altesse me permettra de lui rendre mes très humbles grâces, de l'attention qu'elle a eu pour les intérêts du Comte de Lecheraine que j'ai pris la liberté de lui recommander; je crains d'être importun, mais je crains plus d'être ingrat, & il n'est pas permis de se voir comblé de bontés, & de ne point marquer sa reconnoissance. La mienne est très sincère & très vive; & votre Altesse pourra dans toutes les occasions, disposer de moi d'un serviteur qui lui est acquis sans réserve.

La lettre que votre Altesse m'a fait l'honneur de m'écrire, le 22^{me} Septembre, dans l'envelope de laquelle étoit la réponse de sa Majesté la Reine d'Espagne, à celle que lui avoit écrit la Reine ma maîtresse, n'est arrivée ici, je ne fais par quel accident, que depuis fort peu de tems. Nous savions déjà l'heureux accouchement de la Reine, & cette nouvelle nous avoit rempli de joie. La tristesse a suivi cette joie de près, selon le cours ordinaire des affaires de ce monde; car dans le milieu d'une santé parfaite, & quand
nous

nous nous attendions le moins à un coup comme celui-là, nous nous vîmes à la veille de perdre la meilleure Princesse que ces royaumes ont jamais connu. En effet la Reine fut attaquée d'une fièvre violente, dont le premier accès lui dura plus de trente heures. Sa Majesté n'en a eu, heureusement pour nous, & j'ose dire, pour le reste de l'Europe, que deux, & depuis ce tems la fièvre s'est terminée par la goûte, maladie pénible à la vérité, mais qui n'est point dangereuse, & que les médecins avoient tous souhaité.

Monsieur Lawless, qui sent bien ce qu'il doit à votre Altesse, & qui veille à ses intérêts avec toute l'attention & toute la vivacité possible, m'a fait part de ce qui s'est passé dernièrement à la Haye, au sujet de la souveraineté. Je n'ai pas manqué de mettre l'affaire devant le Conseil, & les ordres de la Reine sont donnés à Monsieur le Comte de Strafford, qui partira pour la Hollande au premier jour, de la manière que votre Altesse auroit pu elle-même desirer. Comme il y a apparence, que les Etats-Généraux ont pris cette résolution, sur les avis qu'ils avoient reçus de Rastadt, Monsieur Prior, Ministre de la Reine à la Cour
de

de France, est instruit de faire des instances, afin que rien ne passe dans les négociations pour la paix de l'Empereur, qui puisse porter préjudice aux prétensions de votre Altesse.

Il faut espérer que d'un côté, le Roi Très Chrétien soutiendra hautement un article, que sa Majesté Catholique a tant à cœur, & que de l'autre, Messieurs les Etats réfléchiront, que leur barrière ne dépend pas moins de l'appui de la Reine, que du consentement de l'Empereur. Ce qu'il y a de sûr, c'est que la Reine ne se départira pas des engagements, qu'elle a bien voulu prendre avec le Roi Catholique, à cet égard.

Je ne puis point me résoudre à finir cette lettre sans témoigner à votre Altesse le plaisir extrême, avec lequel j'ai appris que le Roi d'Espagne a fait l'honneur au Comte de Montijo, de lui donner la Toison. Ce jeune Seigneur me paroît, par une lettre qu'il m'a fait l'honneur de m'écrire, pénétré de toute la réconnoissance qu'il doit à une protectrice aussi puissante que votre Altesse.

Je suis, Madame, &c.

B.

To

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, January, 19th, 1713-14.

I HAVE before me, your Grace's private letters, of the 2nd, 5th, and 7th of this month, for all which, I return my most sincere acknowledgments. I easily conceive how disagreeable your present situation must be. Indeed, my Lord, you deserved better returns from the Whigs than violence for moderation, obstinacy for complaisance, and ribaldry for reason. But this good effect, however, results from all the indulgence and patience which has been exerted, that none can wonder at the Queen's resentment, none can complain, if, after such attacks, she asserts the honour of her government with vigour, and some degree of severity. Allow me to add, that as much as your nature is averse to the doing any thing hard, the provocations which you have received, are sufficient to make your Grace feel some satisfaction, whilst these ungrateful madmen are paid the price of their folly. The proceedings of the Irish Commons have awakened the most indolent of all those, who mean well in this kingdom;

kingdom; and will, I make no doubt, strengthen and secure the government they were calculated to overthrow. I shall say the less to your Grace in this letter, because the instructions I received in Council, authorized me to write more plainly, than is usually done, in a public dispatch.

But there is one point, which the Queen directed me to write upon to your Grace, in my own hand: Whether the discontented party resolve to send agents hither or not, her Majesty judges it will be of use, during the interval of Parliament in Ireland, and the session of it here, to have some few Lords and Commons, such as have the best capacity, and as have shown the greatest zeal, in opposing the late violent measures, come to Britain. If any thing should arise here, relating to the transactions at Dublin, from these persons our friends may receive information, and scattered amongst our own party, will both instruct and animate them. Beside which, it is to be considered, that when some of the most considerable of the Churchmen of Ireland are upon the spot, and consulted with, in the measures taken for the future settlement of things, it will
not

not be possible to attribute, if any point should fail hereafter, this failure to an omission or defect on this side of the water.

I expressed my own meaning ill, if I induced your Grace, by what fell from my pen, in a former letter, to think, that there was a design of taxing Ireland in the Parliament of Britain. The consequence of such a measure to the prerogative is too bad, to suffer any one, who means well to the crown, to be for it. All I intended, was to show your Grace the temper of the people here, and that the Queen might depend on every thing, which this parliament could do, to support her against the attempts of the faction in Ireland.

Your Grace had too often repeated your commands to me, concerning your own continuance in that kingdom, for me to presume not to obey them; I read those paragraphs of your letters to her Majesty, and though the Queen entered extremely into the difficulties, which you have to struggle with, yet she seemed to think they would lessen, and that there was time enough before your Grace, for you to take a resolution in this affair. The Parliament being
not

not likely to sit in Ireland till ours is up, many measures being to be taken, and it being possible that many accidents may happen to change the face of things during the time, the Queen's desire, I think, is, that your Grace should come hither, after you have taken the best care you can to have the government carried on in your absence, but not on the foot of quitting the employment of Lord Lieutenant. The troubles your Grace has met with in which station, can be attributed to nothing but the unfortunate circumstance of time.

I hope your Grace will always think fit to serve the Queen, sure I am, you must be always thought so, and particularly by those who esteem it now their great advantage and honour to be joined with you. I beg your Grace's pardon, that I forgot, in the hurry of much business at Windsor, being urged to hasten back thither, to speak to her Majesty about the preferment which you destine for Mr. Greenheilds: I will not fail to do it on Saturday. I am, &c.

B.

To

To the Lord Chancellor of Ireland.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, January 19th, 1713-14.

THE contents of your Lordship's letter, of the 26th of December, are much better answered by the Queen, than they could be by any thing I am able to say. Your Lordship sees how much justice she does to your signal merit, and how little reason you had to apprehend that the insinuations of malice, or the clamours of faction, would make any impression upon so gracious a mistress, or induce her to withdraw her protection from a servant, whose only crime has been supporting her prerogative and the honour of her government. When I writ to your Lordship before, I thought that the employment which you desired for your son had been actually given, my Lord Treasurer having told me, some days before, that it would be so; but it seems a representation, which has been made by the Commissioners of the revenue, against the continuance of this office, prevented what was intended.

I hope, I may say I know, that the disappointment will only serve to make the
first

first step Mr. Phipps takes into the world better ; for whom I can wish nothing more than that he may deserve as well of the Queen, the church, and his country, as his father has done.

The list of Bishops being settled before any application in favour of Dr. Hamilton * came, it was impossible on this occasion to provide for him. As this is a true, so I hope it will appear a reasonable excuse to your Lordship, and that you will make my Lord Abercorn of the same mind. I am, &c.

B.

De Monsieur de Torcy.

A Versailles, le 28me Janvier, 1714.

S'IL y a quelque occasion, my Lord, de vous faire un compliment, c'est au sujet du rétablissement de la santé de la Reine. Permettez-moi donc de vous assurer, que connoissant votre zèle, votre cœur, & votre état, je suis entré dans tous sentimens ; & si je me suis égaré, ce ne sera tout-à-plus, que parce que j'aurois été moins philosophe pour vous, que vous ne l'êtes vous-

* Dr. Andrew Hamilton, Archdeacon of Raphoe.

même sur l'avenir. Dieu conserve cette grande Princesse, & lui donne la satisfaction de voir bientôt l'ouvrage de la paix, qu'elle a si fort avancé, entièrement consommé. Je l'espérerois, my Lord, si l'on étoit assez heureux pour trouver hors de l'Angleterre des négociateurs tels que vous. Mais s'il y en a quelqu'un en d'autres endroits de l'Europe, dont je doute, ce n'est pas à la Cour de Vienne qu'il faut les chercher. Elle fournit, en leur place, des projets, qu'on ne peut même honorer du titre de captieux, ses desseins y sont trop clairement découverts ; & l'on ne voit, de la part de ceux qui dressent ces projets, que le desir d'être artificieux, sans avoir le bonheur de parvenir à leur but.

Vous en jugerez mieux que personne, quand Monsieur Iberville aura l'honneur de vous faire voir le projet préliminaire, que je lui envoie, tel que Monsieur le Prince Eugène l'a présenté à Monsieur le Maréchal de Villars. Il n'est pas étonnant qu'un grand Général adopte cette manière de traiter approuvée, il y a déjà quelques années de lui, & d'un autre grand Général. Le nôtre, plus accoutumé à cueillir des lauriers que des branches d'olive, croit qu'un soldat fait
mal

mal farder la vérité, & prend en Monsieur le Prince Eugène la même confiance que je prendrois en my Lord Bolingbroke. Nous en verrons bientôt l'effet, qui fera vraisemblablement la rupture des conférences à Rastadt. Je voudrois bien en voir renouer d'autres sous de meilleures auspices, & je ne les croirai telles que lorsque la Reine & ses Ministres y auront part.

En attendant, my Lord, j'ai recours à vous, pour un autre traité de paix : Matthieu n'est pas moins injuste qu'il est insupportable sur un article dont il ne cesse de me parler, & donc vous pouvez juger mieux que personne. C'est celui de trois malheureuses écluses faites à Dunkerque aux dépens du pays, avant que la place fut au Roi, & qu'on veut aujourd'hui démolir, comme pouvant servir à nettoyer le port. On a fait voir à Monsieur Prior, qu'il n'étoit pas à craindre qu'elles servissent jamais à cet usage, que leur destruction causeroit la ruine totale du pays. Mémoires, cartes, plans, tout a été employé pour le convaincre, sans pouvoir fléchir son opiniâtreté. Vous seul, my Lord, vous pouvez, par vos ordres, lui rendre la raison, qu'il a perdu absolument, sur cet

article ; & j'ose dire que vous le devez autant par pitié pour lui que pour l'honneur de la Reine ; & sérieusement la justice & la bonté de sa Majesté Britannique sont intéressée, non-seulement à ne pas demander, mais même à ne pas souffrir cette destruction, absolument inutile à l'objet qu'elle se propose, & qui acheveroit de ruiner les habitans de cette malheureuse ville, aussi-bien que le pays des environs.

Je vous ai vu, my Lord, touché de ces raisons, vous avez été depuis sur les lieux. Imposez donc, je vous supplie, silence à Matthieu, en sorte qu'au lieu de querelles entre lui & moi, nous n'ayons désormais qu'à parler de vos perfections. Nous serons toujours d'accord sur cet article, comme je serai toujours, plus que personne, & en vérité très parfaitement, Monsieur, votre, &c.

DE TORCY.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, January 20th, 1713-14.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Majesty, that your servants here, employ them-

selves in preparing the minds of men to carry on your service with that vigour, which the present circumstances of affairs, and the violence of the Whig faction, require.

I was yesterday with my Lord Chancellor, and my Lord Treasurer. We went exactly over the list of Lords, and I believe, I may venture to say, that, notwithstanding the opposition of those who are clothed with the marks of your Majesty's goodness and favour, we shall be able to form a very considerable majority. As to the Commons, there is not the least reason to doubt of their dutiful behaviour.

There are letters from Ireland, of the 12th of this month, but not a syllable of business, in any of mine; from whence I conclude, that all things remained in suspense there, till the arrival of your Majesty's farther orders, which were dispatched last night, according to the instructions I received on Sunday.

We have a packet from France, the letters are of the 26th, N.S. Mr. Prior relates, that the project of peace, come from Rastadt, does not please the Court of France, and that a counter-project is preparing,

which will be offered to the Emperor to accept, or refuse at once. The French Commissaries are by this time set out, and if we find them as reasonable, as it is affirmed their orders empower them to be, I hope your Majesty will see a happy issue put to a negotiation, which has been made intricate and tedious by the folly of some, and the knavery of others, of those, who would have been gainers by the dispatch of it. A Committee of Council sits to-morrow morning, and on Friday in the evening, there is to be a Committee in the Council Chamber, to prepare an order to be laid before your Majesty, for taking off the imposition on French shipping, as France has already taken off that which was laid on your Majesty's subjects.

This necessary attendance makes it impossible for me to return to my duty at Windsor before Saturday. I am, &c.

B.

I had almost forgot to acquaint your Majesty, that the Queen of Spain continues very ill, and is removed to the Prado for the air.

To

To the Lord Primate of Ireland.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, January 21st, 1713-14.

I KNOW not by what accident it happened, whether in my own office, or in the post-office, but the honour of your Grace's letter of the 11th, did not come to my hand, till after I had dispatched the last Irish mail: I should otherwise have taken the very first opportunity of assuring your Grace, that if I was able in any degree to contribute to your promotion, Ireland, and Britain too, are more obliged to me than you. What assistance your Grace may want from hence, will at all times be readily given by those who have now the honour to serve her Majesty, and perhaps there have been very few conjunctures, wherein union, concert, and mutual assistance among those, who mean the preservation of our constitution in Church and State, were more necessary than the present. As soon as Mr. Southwell had informed me that the Archbishop of Armagh had usually been her Majesty's almoner, I spoke to the Queen about it, and by her order, have already writ to my Lord Duke of

Shrewsbury, to let his Grace know, that she intends to observe the same rule on this occasion. The letter will be signed by her Majesty on Sunday, and shall be transmitted by the post of Tuesday. I am, &c.

B.

To the Earl of Anglesey.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, January 25th, 1713-14.

THOUGH I have not had the honour of corresponding with your Lordship, yet Mr. Secretary Bromley assuring me, that the importance of the affairs now in agitation, and the weighty consequence to our country, to ourselves, to our posterity, of the measures at this time fallen upon, would justify me with your Lordship in assuming this liberty, I venture to write to you, and in doing so, shall use that liberty, which it is prudent to take with a man of sense, and safe to take with a man of honour.

The violent measures, into which the House of Commons of Ireland have run, happened in one respect very opportunely. The necessity of acting on those principles,
and

and with that vigour, which your Lordship has always wished for, and which I have always, perhaps sometimes with too much vehemence, pressed for, was become so apparent, that my Lord Treasurer seemed determined to submit his own schemes to the opinion of his friends. The Queen at the same time, was in such a disposition, that it was visible that all propositions, which tended to establish the Church interest, would meet with a ready assistance from her: I began then truly to hope, that we should no longer palliate a distemper, which like other virulent infections, will soon gather strength from the least remaining particle; and Broderick's party, from whom I never expected any good, have done this, that these hopes are confirmed, or, to speak more properly, are turned into certainty.

Indeed, my Lord, I think, and your Lordship knows I have not been over sanguine upon this subject, that unless we are, as Tories, wanting to ourselves, unless we abandon the rules of common prudence, the Church interest, and the Court interest will, for the future during her Majesty's reign, be synonymous terms.

If

If it be true, my Lord, that this is the present temper of the Court, your Lordship will, I am sure, agree with me, that the conjuncture is not to be neglected; that a set of Ministers who, without any reserve, avowedly attempt to establish the true interest of Britain and Ireland, an interest, which, for many years, has been preyed upon by a faction, who, like other insects, are created and nourished by the sickness and corruption of the body in which they reside, have a right to claim from such as profess to be of this interest, that their administration under the Queen, should be rendered easy, at least practicable.

I believe I am not mistaken, when I affirm, that almost all our friends are in the sentiments which we could wish; but I must own freely to your Lordship, there are some who seem to me to divide first, and look about for reasons afterwards. If there are really, my Lord, such people amongst us, they must be yielded to, disarmed, or converted. For my own part, I am willing either to do the first, or attempt the second, but the last is surely the most eligible; at any rate, there must not be the least appearance

ance of division in the body of the Tories.

The Queen, God be praised! is finely recovered, though the gout still confines her, and gives occasion, or rather colour (for they want no occasion to lye) to the Whigs, daily and hourly, to spread a thousand rumours of her sickness sometimes, and sometimes of her death. But still she has but one life, and whenever that drops, if the Church interest is broke, without concert, without confidence, without order, we are of all men the most miserable. The Whigs will be united, and ready to take any hint which their leaders shall give; I will not say, that the inclination of the House of Hanover is to the Whigs, I intend to be for them, and therefore hope better things of them; but this I will say, that I shall be sorry to see it, in any degree, made their interest, to give in to that party, whose tyranny we have felt, and the consequences of whose administration, the next generation must expect to feel also.

Your Lordship is probably by this time ready to ask, when I will end, and in what all I have writ is to terminate? Come over,

my Lord, as soon as possibly you can ; your friends here are ready to concert freely and honourably with you ; and I am persuaded that we may act, through the whole Session, as one man, and if we once find this art, the opposite faction is undone.

The Queen's indisposition, hindered the instruments for the Bishops several days from being signed ; my Lord Treasurer's illness kept him the last journey from Windsor, but you may depend on this affair's being dispatched by Tuesday's post. I wish it may be practicable to Dr. Hamilton, but I doubt the application came too late.

Mr. Secretary Bromley has taken notice to your Lordship, that the Queen would be glad, and I have intimated the same thing to my Lord Lieutenant, that some few Lords and Commoners, such as are of most weight and consideration in your Parliament, might come over this winter : the advantage which would result from thence, I need not suggest, either with respect to the debating, if that comes to be the case, of what is past, or with respect to your taking measures for securing a Tory Parliament in your next elections.

Can you, my Lord, forgive the length of
this

this letter? nothing could have made me trespass thus far on your patience, but a conviction that we have now an opportunity to establish present and future happiness in our country, and that if this opportunity be neglected, we may perhaps never have, as we shall hardly deserve to have another.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

From Mr. Prior.*

Paris, January 18th, 1714.

THE very apprehensions I felt, from what you said of the Queen's being ill, though you added the news of her being recovered, gave my carcase a very ugly shock; so much do my own fears naturally outweigh my joys, or plainer, so much am I rather a coward than a hero. Good God! what a thousand things have I thought, since I received your letter; if that should happen, which one hates even to think of, what is to become of us? What sort, or set of men, are to be our task-masters? And what sluices are we provided with, to save Great Bri-

* Private.

tain

tain from being overflowed? After, what would become of us all? the thought I grant you is very mean, what would become of me? but humanity is frail and querulous; if the prospect, therefore, of this evil (though I hope far removed) be dreadful to the masters of Mortemar Castle, Hinton St. George, Stanton Harcourt, or Bucklebury*, what must it be to friend Matt; *qui oppressus inimicis & invidiâ, ærumnis, & paupertate, morbis, & annis*; or, as it is upon the tombstone, fine goods, fine lands, fine riches? Why won't Lord Treasurer think of this one half hour, since he may do it any half hour, since he intends to do it, I believe; and possibly, half an hour too late, will be as sorry as myself that it was not done? But if the Queen is well, hang all the rest! Gaultier had alarmed this Court; upon your letter, I was glad to convince them, that there was no ground for their apprehensions, your Lordship's letter giving so good an account of her Majesty's indisposition being so happily past; and accordingly, I continued the appointment and invitation, I had made, to some

* The Seats of Lords Oxford, Paulet, Harcourt, and Bokingbroke.

of our friends to dine with me yesterday. Monsieur could not, as he promised, come, the King having appointed him to wait on his Majesty at Marli; but I had, women, Croissy, Torcy, Bouzolles, and (as Madame Croissy had invited her) Lady Jersey; men, Cardinal Polignac, Abbé Pompone, Count Croissy, and that gang; Albergotti to sing, *accompagnement de musique*, and every thing à *l'honneur de l'Angleterre*: but under this mask of mirth, *premit alto corde dolorem*, till I hear from England, more particularly, that the Queen's health is confirmed.

Judge you only of your Dowager's sincerity: though I received her kindly, waited on her home, &c. I heard this morning, from Hunter, that she would not let the child know she was to dine with me, though I had invited him; that she left word with the Porter, that nobody from me should see him, while she was here; and that she was not at home this morning, in case, I should go to see her (which indeed I did). Pardon this rhapsody, and believe me ever, most truly, my Lord, &c.

MATT.

From

From Mr. Prior.*

MY LORD,

Paris, January 26th, 1714.

TO my letter, I take the liberty to add the constitution †, which is likely to set the clergy of this kingdom into a flame, and may, if rightly managed, produce a Gallican separate from a Roman Church.

Ever, my Lord, &c.

MATT.

From Mr. Prior‡.

Verfailles, February 1st, 1714.

TO a long letter to the Secretary of State, give me leave to add a word to my dear Lord Bolingbroke. Before I received your last commands, I had made Monsieur de Torcy sensible of the unreasonableness of a hypocritical mother's ruining a hopeful son, and of the ill consequences an affair of this nature might produce, as to the public. I see, he will in earnest endeavour to get the child from her; I have set Cardinal Polignac upon the same subject, and am not without reasonable hopes

* Private.

† Unigenitus filius Dei.

‡ Private.

of prevailing. I would, therefore, see what Monsieur de Torcy will do in it, which he promises me shall be in eight or ten days ; in the mean time, I would not let the child know more than that you have writ to him, and that he should continue to be ready to say to Monsieur de Torcy, or any person else, that he is willing and resolved to return to England ; I leave with Monsieur de Torcy, an extract of the instances made to me by your Lordship in this behalf ; I have added a little lie, that my Lord Chancellor has writ to me, and that, by the laws of England, the child is of age to choose who he will live with ; may it not be brought about, that he should choose Lord Chancellor, Lord Treasurer, and yourself, for his guardians, though I know no estate he has ? or, *à-propos*, his elder brother, a Peer of England, may not he reclaim him ? and since you have given yourself thus much trouble, why would not you go on, by writing to Monsieur de Torcy a word, and by speaking to Iberville ; and, by letting Lord Jersey do the same, why, I say, should we not all contribute to effect this little boy's return fairly and openly ? And lastly, why will not Mr. Bromley and Sir Tho-

mas Hanmer give Iberville to understand, that every Roman Catholic may suffer for the sake of the filliest woman that ever told a pair of beads? Upon these joint instances, I dare say, the thing may be effected, and our lions be forced to quit her hold of the young one; for by what Gaultier has already writ hither, and pray let him write again, I perceive these people a good deal staggered in the thing, and I found Monsieur de Torcy embarrassed, when I told him, that by fair means or by forceable means, the child should go into England, and that, as I had never lied to him, he might depend upon my veracity, in this point.

You will easily imagine with what joy we received the news of the Queen's being perfectly recovered: pray send Barton hither, before her birth-day, for I intend to celebrate it, for the honour of the nation, and shall have peculiar occasion for that sage English officer. My dear Lord, yours, &c.

MATT.

I am glad you like your Venus.

To Mr. Prior.

DEAR MATT,

Windfor Castle, January 30th, 1713-14.

I BEGIN this private letter to-day, because I foresee, that I may very probably be so taken up to-morrow and on Monday, as to render it impossible for me to write to you any thing more than a public dispatch.

I agree, that the most eligible way of getting my cousin Villars home again, is by open means, and by the act of the Court of France; but I hope you agree too, that any means, all means, must be tried, rather than this youth should be abandoned to all the evil consequences of his mother's folly. My Lord Treasurer touched this subject, in a letter he writ to Monsieur de Torcy. I have mentioned it to Monsieur d'Ibberville, and the Lords of the Cabinet will all do the same; neither is it any artifice to say, that the simplicity of this mother may bring a great uneasiness on the Roman Catholics here, who at present enjoy as much tranquillity as any others of the Queen's subjects.

Monday, February 1st.

YESTERDAY Monsieur d'Ibberville waited on the Queen, and her Majesty said to him,

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what

what you will find in my other letter ; you remember they pretended that her Majesty had taken no notice of this business to the Duke d'Aumont. Adieu, dear Matt.

I am, &c.

B.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, February 3rd, 1713-14.

I HAVE the honour and satisfaction to acquaint your Majesty, that having last night gone through the alterations, made by the Spanish Court, to the treaty of commerce, I found them such as are entirely reasonable. They are but two, and they serve rather to ascertain what was agreed, than to make any new bargain. The ratifications being to be exchanged at Utrecht, must be prepared by Mr. Secretary Bromley, in doing which I am to assist him this morning ; and I shall take care to advertise my Lord Chancellor, to carry the great seal to Windsor with him, by which means a courier may be dispatched on Saturday with these instruments, and the peace with Spain may be proclaimed in form, by the fitting of Parliament.

Mr. Lawless acquaints me, that he sent to the King his master a state, which I drew up, of the interests of Spain, in the present posture of the affairs of Europe, and particularly of those articles, on which your Majesty would expect full satisfaction; and that the King has returned it to him with approbation of every point. If this be so, your Majesty has removed the immediate and prevented future difficulties with the Court of Madrid; and this negociation, though long, has ended, as I pray God, all your Majesty's designs may, successfully.

A Court of Directors of the South Sea Company meets this morning, and things are put into such a method, that they will probably accept your Majesty's assignment *, and take the trade upon them, without more delay; at least the little I can do, my influence in this affair not extending far, has been done.

Your Majesty's letter † to the Lord Mayor

* This relates to the assiento contract; the Queen assigned over to the Company the share reserved for her Majesty.

† The Queen's illness had been much exaggerated, the consequence of which was, the funds fell, and the Bank experienced a great run upon it; to remedy this, the Queen wrote to the Lord Mayor, Sir William Stanier, announcing her recovery from the gout; her intention to open the Parliament on the 16th, and her hopes that the citizens of London would put a stop to those malicious rumours which prejudiced the public credit and tranquillity.

was received with transports of joy, and will, I hope, put some stop to those infamous proceedings, by which the Whigs have, on this occasion, shown, from the highest of them down to the lowest, what they always had at heart, ingratitude and disloyalty.

I beg your Majesty's pardon for so harsh an expression, and hope it may be allowed to the zeal of one whose life is devoted to your service, and whose views go no farther than yourself. I am, &c.

B.

*To the Duke of Shrewsbury *.*

MY LORD,

Whitehall, February 4th, 1713-14.

I HAVE no other concern about the accident, which you are pleased to mention, in your private letter of the 27th of January, than the trouble it has occasioned your Grace. My whole correspondence has been pointed to remove, as far as in me lay, difficulties of all kinds, and from all quarters, and there has not fallen a syllable from my pen, which

* The copy of this letter is not addressed to any person. The editor judges it to have been written to the Duke of Shrewsbury, and therefore has addressed it to him.

I should be sorry that you, my Lord, might see. Do me the justice to be persuaded of this truth, and to look on me as, my Lord,

Your Grace's &c.

B.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, February 11th, 1713-14.

I WOULD have had the honour to send your Majesty, with this letter, the lists of Lords, ranged as we expect they will vote, had I not kept it to show to Lord Treasurer, Lord Chancellor, and Lord Trevor, whom I am appointed to meet, and by whose assistance the account will be rendered more exact and more authentic: I will not fail to bring it to Windsor on Saturday.

The Lords of Council met yesterday, and among other matters I proposed to them, as your Majesty was pleased to allow me to do, the additional instruction to Mr. Harley *; they readily came into it, and having nothing new to offer, Mr. Secretary Bromley has dispatched it, in the terms in which I

* Who was going again Envoy-extraordinary, to Hanover.

opened it to your Majesty. This measure will bring the Elector to some declaration or other. In all cases, your Majesty will be at more certainty: those of your subjects who mean honestly, will be easy and satisfied; and those who mean otherwise, will be a good deal disarmed. I have not seen Mr. Harley, but I heard yesterday he was not gone: I mention this, because I ought to ask your Majesty's pardon for informing you that he went last week. He intended to embark on Friday last, and took his leave of me accordingly, just before I set out for Windsor, and this occasioned my mistake.

The Directors of the South Sea Company have tried all the art possible to wrest, on their own terms, out of her Majesty's hands, the favours you designed them: but they are now at the end of their line; and things are put upon such an issue, with my Lord Treasurer's approbation, that your Majesty will, by Saturday next, either have obliged them to submit, or else remain no longer under any engagements to them. In which case, I know of none who will suffer but themselves, as in the former I know of

none

opened

Q 24

none who would have gained so much as themselves.

A post from France arrived this morning, with letters of the 13th and 16th, N.S. The principal article in them is, that Prince Eugene has sent another plan to Versailles, which comes nearer to the French than the first did. But two strange propositions the Emperor still insists upon; one is, that all the treaties which France entered into at Utrecht, as far, I suppose, as the House of Austria is affected by them, shall pass for nothing; the other is, that nothing shall be stipulated for the King of Sicily, or the other Princes of Italy. Your Majesty perceives by these demands, that the view of the Court of Vienna is to lay the foundation of a new war, whenever they conclude this. Mr. Prior had received your Majesty's orders, about the galley-slaves, which still remain at the oar, on account of religion, and had begun to execute them. The Queen-dowager, at St. Germain's, is so very ill, that she has taken what they call *tous les sacrements*: they do not hope that it is possible for her to recover.

Since

Since I wrote thus far, Mr. Harley has been with me. He has been ill since I saw him, but thinks himself well enough to proceed without farther delay.

I am, Madam, &c.

B.

A Monsieur le Comte de Montéleon.

MONSIEUR,

De Whitehall, ce 12me Février, 1713-14.

LES fêtes de Samedi, jour de la naissance de la Reine, & les affaires qui me sont survenues Dimanche, jour du Conseil, m'ont empêché d'avoir l'honneur de vous écrire, comme je me l'étois proposé, par le courier, qui sera présentement arrivé à Utrecht, avec les ratifications du traité de commerce. Si je n'ai pas pris plutôt la résolution de répondre à votre lettre du 3me du mois passé, la raison en a été, pour vous le dire naïvement, que je ne savois de quelle manière m'y répondre jusques à ce que nous sumes si le traité de commerce, tel que vous l'avez signé, seroit ratifié ou non. Je veux toujours vous parler & vous écrire sans réserve, & quand

quand il s'agiroit d'en user avec vous d'une autre manière, je vous l'avoue, Monsieur, que je me trouverois beaucoup embarrassé.

Don Patricio Lawless me servira de témoin, combien j'ai été touché des contre-tems que vous avez essuyé en Hollande. J'ai cependant cru comme vous, qu'on n'est jamais la dupe, quand on agit avec honneur, avec droiture, & avec probité. Je me suis consolé par la persuasion, dans laquelle j'ai été, que tôt ou tard le Roi votre maître rendroit justice à votre mérite, & regarderoit dans leur véritable jour tous les grands services que vous lui avez rendu. Vous savez, Monsieur, combien je suis persuadé que les intérêts de nos deux nations doivent être inséparables ; jugez par-là, s'il vous plaît, aussi bien que par l'amitié que je vous ai promise, & que je vous conserverai toujours, de la joie que j'ai ressentie en apprenant que vous reviendrez ici, & que j'aurai le plaisir de travailler sur ce beau plan, avec un Ministre aussi bien porté & aussi éclairé que vous.

La rupture des conférences de Rastadt, & les informations que vous avez reçues de ce qui s'est passé entre les deux Généraux, vous auront mis au fait de plusieurs choses qui

vous

vous paroissent douteuses. Il est sûr qu'on a cru en Hollande & ailleurs, que pour parvenir à la paix, la France pourroit faire de certains sacrifices, & il n'est pas fort étonnant, si de gens qui veulent, par plusieurs raisons, avoir de grand ménagemens pour l'Empereur, craignent de stipuler des choses choquantes à ce Prince, & sur lesquelles, à leur avis, la France peut bien passer outre dans le traité qu'elle fait avec ce Prince ; mais présentement on doit espérer que les conseils des Etats-Généraux envisageront, d'un autre œil, la conduite de sa Majesté Impériale, & verront qu'il ne s'agit pas de quelque chose de plus ou de moins pour l'Electeur de Bavière, & pour Madame la Princesse des Ursins ; mais qu'il s'agit de renverser tout ce qui a été fait à Utrecht, par complaisance à la Maison d'Autriche, ou d'obliger l'Empereur de faire sa paix, d'une manière à rendre complet le système, duquel par leurs traités tant d'autres puissances sont tombées d'accord. Quand les Ministres d'Hollande feront cette réflexion, je ne puis pas me persuader qu'ils se résoudront à copier sur la politique de la Cour de Vienne, & à différer leur paix avec l'Espagne, jusqu'à ce que sa

Majesté

Majesté Impériale, trouve à-propos à conclure la sienne avec la France.

L'échange des ratifications de nos traités ne contribuera pas peu à disposer les esprits des Hollandois à conclure avec vous ; & je compte que my Lord Strafford s'employera à cette fin de la manière la plus efficace. Ce ministre ne manquera pas de vous communiquer les derniers ordres de la Reine, sur les prétensions de la Princesse des Ursins. Vous verrez, Monsieur, par toute la conduite de la Reine qu'elle ne perd jamais de vue, les engagements qu'elle a pris : elle se pique d'être fidelle allié. Le Roi Catholique la trouvera toujours telle à son égard, & par conséquent, il ne doit pas prendre en mauvaise part, qu'elle soutient avec fermeté les intérêts d'un Prince avec lequel elle a des engagements les plus solennels, & qui s'est départi, comme vous savez, Monsieur, en considération de la Reine, de plusieurs prétensions, qui, sans doute, auroient embarrassé la négociation, & fait traîner la conclusion de la paix. Vous jugez bien, Monsieur, que je veux parler du Roi de Portugal, & je m'adresse plus-tôt à vous qu'à aucun autre Ministre, sur ce sujet, parce que
vous

vous avez été témoin, que quand la Reine prit la résolution de passer outre de signer avec la France, & de proposer que les Ministres de l'Espagne fussent admis au Congrès, c'étoit dans une confiance entière, que le Roi de Portugal renonçant à toutes prétensions sur le continent d'Espagne, la paix feroit faite sur le plan qui vous a été, dans ce tems-là, remis par le Comte de Dartmouth. Vous avez contribué à finir cette négociation par les minutes concertées à Utrecht : mais les apostilles dressées à Madrid, rendent vos bonnes intentions infructueuses.

Permettez-moi de vous renvoyer à ce que j'ai écrit à Don Patricio Lawless sur ce sujet, & de vous conjurer de travailler sérieusement à nous tirer cette épine du dos. Au reste, Monsieur, vous ne pouvez pas venir ici si-tôt qu'on le souhaite. Vous trouverez Monsieur le Comte d'Oxford & moi toujours dans les mêmes sentimens, & la Reine m'a ordonné de vous assurer qu'elle sera très-aise de vous voir. Je suis, Monsieur, &c.

B.

De

De Monsieur de Torcy.

A Versailles, le 7^{me} Février, 1714.

MESSIEURS Anison & Fenelon, qui ont déjà l'honneur d'être connu de vous, Monsieur, partent pour se rendre incessamment à Londres, avec les ordres & dispositions nécessaires pour entrer dans les moyens & à terminer la commission dont ils sont chargés à la satisfaction & à l'avantage commun des deux nations. Je vous demande pour eux la continuation de vos bontés, & je vous supplie de croire que je suis, très véritablement,
Votre, &c.

DE TORCY.

From Mr. Prior.*

Paris, February 9th, 1714.

MR. Churchill brought me, two days since, a recommendatory letter from your Lordship; he may be assured of my best offices. For God's sake, my Lord, how do you all do, and what do you all do, in your enchanted island? for the stories we have here, of your irresolutions and misunder-

* Private.

standings,

standings, are monstrous. Pray, let Henry write to Mat, one word, by Barton, by which I may know, however imperfectly, how to answer people here, or how to govern myself. Adieu, my Lord, I am most sincerely yours.

In discourse with the Commissioners that are coming to you, I have had opportunity of doing justice to the character and merit of my old friend, Mr. Whitworth, as I have likewise assured them, that they may prepare themselves to find, in the other gentlemen appointed to treat with them, all the candour and fairness of mind in their treating, and all the openness and extent of view in their proposals, that they can possibly wish, for the mutual good and friendship of the nations.

From Mr. Prior.

MY LORD,

Paris, February 9th, N.S. 1714.

I AM to acknowledge your very welcome letter of the 21st of January, V.S. and to thank you for the blessed news it brought me, of her Majesty's being perfectly well,

well, which is the *unum necessarium* as to all our wishes and endeavours.

Messrs. Anison and Fenelon will part from hence on Monday; the true reason of their staying so long is, that they received their advance money but two days since. I have already so fully informed your Lordship of every thing I have done and said to the Ministers in that behalf, that I have only to add, that, in taking leave of the Commisaries, I observe they seem to be fully instructed, and to come to you with a very friendly disposition, as to the explanation of all the articles in general, as well as to the confirming the reciprocal obligation of their being treated as *amicissima gens*, and our enjoying the benefits of the tarif of 1664; so I hope all is done, on this side, that could be expected, and that on yours those gentlemen will find an easy disposition and tendency towards the completing a bargain, which, in my poor sense, seems to be one of the best that, for some years past, has been made for the universal good of England, however disadvantageous it will prove to those, who upon the 'Change are called topping merchants, and who have made

themselves such by a downright monopoly of the trade (which should be national) into their own hands. I have visited their Excellencies, Messrs. Gossinga and de Buys*, and met with a very kind reception from both: the former, in an open and free manner, talked of the state of their affairs with France, and asked, as he should do, about the Queen's health; the latter questioned me very bluntly, if I had seen the plan sent to Rastadt; if I had communicated it to you in England? and as to her Majesty's recovery, would not believe one word I said.

I daily expect the order of Council for taking off the duty of tonnage from the French shipping; the rather, because the 15th instant, which will be next Thursday, the term appointed will expire: and upon the notification, your Lordship will please to give me, of a proclamation for the better preventing the frauds and violences committed on our coasts, I shall, as my duty obliges, endeavour to obtain a like edict from his Most Christian Majesty. By the memorial I gave to this Court, and sent your Lord-

* The Dutch Ambassadors at Paris.

ship in mine of the 31st, your Lordship will have seen, that I had previously obeyed what, in your letter above-mentioned of 21st of January, you thought I should do, in answer to all plans, and Pelletier's representations, on that subject; and, by what Monsieur Iberville writes on that subject to Monsieur de Torcy, I hope Mr. Hill's presence, candour, and authority, will have composed that affair. I have only to add my repeated prayers for her Majesty's health, and assurances of my being, with all duty and respect, my Lord, your Lordship's, &c.

M. PRIOR.

From Mr. Prior.*

MY DEAR LORD,

Verfailles, February 13th, 1714.

UPON what I had discoursed yesterday and this morning with Monsieur de Torcy, I had prepared half the inclosed, and, reserving the afternoon to finish it, was at dinner with the Torcys, the Polignacs, and the Livrys, when Barton came staring in among us: I am ordered by the company

* Private.

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to

to tell you, that as soon as we had asked how the Queen did, we enquired of my Lord Bolingbroke's health, and drank to it in his own Palma wine.

The Queen-dowager, at St. Germain's, was so ill on Saturday last, that she took what they call here *tous les sacremens*. She is to-day better, but cannot possibly so recover as to survive her present illness long. I thank you for sending Barton, who makes a very considerable figure here, and as to the affairs, will scarcely, I presume, be missed; for he knows so little, that, as I hope to be saved, if he had not brought me letters from the cockpit, I should have sworn he had never been in England.

Monfieur de Torcy promises me very solemnly, that he will take the business of little Villars to heart, as soon as he has a day to himself: I am sure you think I do not neglect it, or any thing that you command me.

I am ever, my dear Lord, &c.

MATT.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, February 13th, 1713.

IF I did not write before now, it was because I knew that you went through Flanders, and could hardly arrive at the Hague till this week.

I will begin with the most welcome news I can send you, which is, that our mistress has recovered to a miracle, and is I think now, at least as well as she was before her late sickness. The faction in London, who showed their joy scandalously and simply, when they believed her dying, think it best to support their own hearts, and the hearts of their brethren, by giving out that her Majesty is still in a very dangerous condition. I cannot help on this occasion telling you, that when Prior talked of the Queen's recovery, Buys* was wise and discreet enough, to let him know, he did not believe a word of what he said.

On Tuesday, the Parliament opens by commission; the same day, her Majesty leaves Windsor, will lie, I believe, a night

* Buys, was then the Dutch Ambassador at Paris.

at Hampton Court, and speak at the end of the week, to the two houses. The clamour which the Whigs raise, and the rage which they express, are almost without example

Timorousunexperienced people are alarmed, here and abroad; I make no doubt, but you find those, who measure the strength of this party by the noise they make. But, my Lord, for my part, I sleep in perfect tranquillity; we are in the true interest of our country, we have no aims which we need be ashamed to own; the whole body of the Commons is well disposed, and I think we have a majority in the House of Lords. I hope, that in this House we shall hang more closely together, than we did the last year, and that a number of us shall constantly and warmly debate every point, that, day by day, the Whigs interpose in. This is the true way of supporting, as it is of creating a majority, and for this purpose, I could heartily wish, that you was amongst us. The great load we have lain under, has been the pretended insecurity of the succession; this I think the Queen has taken an effectual method to remove. Mr. Harley, who will set out immediately, has orders,
when

when he renews those assurances, which have been so frequently given by the Queen, of her firm resolution to support the succession of the family of Hanover, to take notice to the Princess Sophia, and to the Elector, that these inclinations of the Queen's continuing the same, the laws on which their right to the crown is established, continuing the same, and the oaths of the people, in which we are all bound in the most solemn manner, continuing likewise the same; it will be very unjust, and very disagreeable to her Majesty, if they themselves, or any employed by them, should give the least encouragement or countenance to the clamours raised by a faction, who mean nothing less than the real advantage of that family, and whose only view is to regain the power, which they abused, even at the expence of the public tranquillity. He is farther to represent, that the Queen determines to bring the question, about the security of their succession, to a short issue, and therefore has commanded him to ask of them, whether they have any additional securities to propose? If they have none, he will say that the Queen must understand them to be

satisfied with those which now subsist; if they have any, he will promise to make a faithful report to the Queen of them; and will add, that he has orders to assure them before-hand, that in case the proposals they make, are consistent with the Queen's honour, her safety, with the terms of the laws by which the crown is entailed, her Majesty will not only consent to, but promote all such proposals. He is farther to declare, that if the propositions, inconsistent with these three points, are made in any other place, or by any other persons, for the Queen will not imagine that propositions contrary to her honour, her safety, or the law, can come from them, her Majesty will never yield to these, and all her faithful servants will, to the utmost, oppose them. He is to expect an explicit answer, before he leaves the Court of Hanover. I make no remarks on this instruction, nor on the natural effect of it, both abroad and at home.

The courier is to be sure arrived, with the ratifications of the Spanish treaty of commerce, and we hope soon to hear both these, and those of peace are exchanged. The alterations

alterations made at Madrid, in the treaty of commerce, were easily complied with here. In truth, the 3rd article stands better than it did, and the security for levying the excises in the 5th and 8th, is what we can in justice make no objection to. We are, I believe, obliged to the Princess des Ursins, for having this treaty sent us back in the manner it is; and I beg of you, to let the Spanish Ministers perceive, that the Queen thinks so, and that you appear warmly for this Lady's interests. As long as this Queen of Spain lives, she will govern her husband, and as long as the Princess lives, she will govern her, so that the advantage of flattering this old woman's pride, for her avarice we cannot flatter, must be solid and lasting.

Mr. Secretary writes on the subject of Portugal, and I have ordered a copy of my letter to Mr. Lawless to be sent you; I vow to you, there is nothing that vexes me more, than to see that negociation hang so long, and a Court no better treated, who threw themselves into the Queen's hands. I have touched this subject, in a letter to the Marquis de Monteleon, who must remember

how little we expected such difficulties as these, which are now on foot, when we prevailed on Portugal to release the Queen from those strong engagements, which she was under, and which otherwise must have embarrassed her, and have prevented her from acting in that vigorous manner, by which she forced the peace.

What, in the name of God! will the Dutch do, in the present state of the affairs of Europe? The Emperor seems, at Rastadt, to have brought matters to a short issue; either the Emperor must come into the system for a future settlement of Europe, on which all the treaties concluded at Utrecht are built, or all those Powers who have treated at the Congress, must submit to have their whole work unravelled, and new seeds be sown of dissention; his Imperial Majesty, as if he was, what he calls himself, a Roman Emperor, seems to impose the latter.

Let me but recommend George to your favour, and ask your pardon for this long epistle, and I have done.

To Mr. Prior.

February 16th, 1713-14.

I OWE you answers to one or two private letters, and I owe a thousand obligations to the good company you was at dinner with, when you writ last to me. They are great men, dear Matt, they are from the cradle to the grave in one scene of business, each according to the predestination of his parent ; they have no affairs but that of their proper departments, and they are accountable to but one master, who knows when they serve well, and who has power to support and to reward.

Had they as many cross-grained fellows to manage, as I have been treating with of late ; had they twice the business out of their office, that they have in it ; in a word, were they to serve without reward, and instead of being supported by the prerogative of the Crown, were they to form a strength to carry on the service of the public, I am apt to think, that they would have a better opinion of us, than the part we act in foreign affairs, does perhaps give them.

You asked me, what was doing in this
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LETTERS AND

enchanted Island, I have been telling you somewhat of it: as to the disputes and differences among our friends, they will not come in to disturb the public affairs, at least, no dissatisfaction of mine shall, if ever I have any. I may laugh at the fool and the knave that is advanced, and pity those who advance them; but I will never go about to distress the only administration I ever liked, the only cause I ever can like.

I hope Monsieur de Torcy will take the business of little Harry Villars to heart; I ask it of him from the bottom of my heart. Indeed, we have reason to be provoked at the proceedings of the Papists: there have been lately, attempts to decoy another young man of quality from Westminster School, and you may tell our friend, that I shall proceed with so much heat against some of their people in a short time, that he will be apt to take me for a Whig.

Adieu, ever your's.

A Ma-

A Madame la Princesse des Ursins.

MADAME,

De Whitehall, ce 19me Février, 1713.

C'EST avec une affliction la plus sincère & la plus vive, que je prends la plume à la main pour vous faire mes complimens de condolance sur la mort de votre grand Reine. J'ose assurer votre Altesse que ce triste événement est un revers qui détruit toute la joie qu'avoient causé ici le rétablissement de la santé de notre Reine, & l'échange de ratifications qui vient d'être fait à Utrecht. Comme votre Altesse voyoit de plus près que qui que ce soit, les vertus de cette grande Princesse, & comme elle jouissoit de toute sa confiance & de toute son amitié, aussi doit-elle sentir plus que personne la perte que l'Espagne, & que l'Europe, vient de faire. Je n'ose être plus long-tems importun; & je me bornerai à souhaiter à votre Altesse tout ce qui peut contribuer à la soulager dans un malheur si extrême. Je suis, &c.

B.

A Mon-

A Monsieur le Duc d'Aumont.

MON CHER DUC,

De Whitehall, ce 1^{er} Mars, 1713.

SI je n'ai pas plutôt répondu à votre lettre du mois de Décembre, c'est que j'ai toujours été dans l'attente de quelque chose, ou capable de vous amuser, ou digne de vous entretenir. Mais comme rien de cette nature s'est offert jusques ici, j'ai cru ne devoir plus long-tems différer mes très humbles remerciemens de toutes les faveurs dont vous m'avez comblé, de l'amitié que vous me conservez, & de la manière avantageuse dont vous avez parlé sur mon sujet au Roi. Vous connoissez les sentimens d'un cœur dans lequel, vous avez tant de part, & vous savez, Monsieur, que quoique je sois très capable de ne pas agir de tout, & de couvrir mon indolence du prétexte honorable de Philosophie, je suis pourtant incapable d'agir contre ces sentimens, dans la moindre bagatelle. L'ambition ne peut conduire qu'à très peu de choses chez nous, & depuis votre départ je sens que le goût des plaisirs diminue considérablement. Pourvu que vous soyez content de moi sur
le

le premier de ces deux articles, je suis sûr que vous ne ferez pas mécontent sur le dernier. Ne dois-je pas vous faire mes complimens sur l'heureux dénouement de la négociation de Rastadt ? Il paroît à nous autres, qui n'envifageons ces affaires que de loin, que l'Empereur ne peut se résoudre à finir une guerre, sans établir les fondemens d'une autre ; cette lettre vous fera rendu sûrement, puisque je l'envoie par un homme qui m'appartient, & qui va ramener le jeune Villars, que Madame sa mère a enlevé d'une manière si extraordinaire, & avec des circonstances si offensantes pour la Reine. Vous vous souviendrez de ce que sa Majesté vous a dit sur ce chapitre ; depuis votre départ l'affaire est devenue plus sérieuse, & j'ose vous assurer que l'imprudance de Madame de Jersey, auroit coûté cher à beaucoup de gens de votre religion.

Par tout où je me trouve, le Duc d'Aumont ne fera certainement oublié, & qu'il me conserve de même dans son souvenir, & qu'il s'assure que je ferai toute ma vie, avec passion, son très humble, &c.

B.

De

Monsieur de Torcy.

A Versailles, le 25^{me} Février, 1714.

LE don de persuader est attaché, my Lord, au desir d'exécuter les ordres de la Reine, & à l'envie de vous plaire. Je viens de l'éprouver, & j'ai trouvé Madame de Jersey prête à renvoyer Monsieur son fils en Angleterre, aussitôt qu'elle a su la manière dont sa Majesté Britannique en avoit parlé depuis peu à Monsieur d'Iberville, & ce que vous aviez encore ajouté. Cette résolution lui coûte cependant beaucoup de larmes, mais elle croit qu'elle doit obéir préféablement à toute autre considération. Elle compte entièrement sur vous, my Lord, & sur votre protection pour son fils. Elle vous prie d'en prendre soin, suivant les offres que vous lui en avez faites, de veiller à son éducation, d'ordonner qu'on vous en rende compte, de le faire venir chez vous les jours de congé, enfin, de lui tenir lieu de père, & de faire revivre, en la personne de cet enfant, toute l'amitié que vous aviez pour le feu Comte de Jersey.

Quoiqu'elle doive me donner une lettre pour vous, my Lord, je satisfais à la promesse

messe que je lui ai faite, de m'acquitter auprès de vous de la commission dont elle m'a chargé.

Je voudrois en supprimer les plaintes contre Matthieu ; son zèle & sa vivacité à exécuter vos ordres, & ceux de my Lord Trésorier, l'ont rendu odieux à Madame de Jersey ; & elle ne veut, a quelque prix que ce soit, remettre son fils entre ses mains. Elle vous prie d'envoyer quelqu'un à Paris, à qui elle le confiera, étant sûre qu'il sera en bonnes mains, pourvu qu'il soit remis à un homme que vous aurez choisi. Elle vous demande, pour dernière grâce, que my Lord Lansdown, ni Madame sa femme, ne se mêlent point de l'éducation du petit Monsieur Villars, mettant en vous seul, my Lord, & aux bontés de la Reine, son unique confiance.

J'espère que vous voudrez bien accorder toutes ces conditions, & que cette négociation sera moins difficile à terminer que celle de Rastadt.

Monsieur d'Iberville aura eu l'honneur de vous rendre compte des derniers ordres envoyés à Monsieur le Marechal de Villars. Ils acheveront la paix, si l'on persua-

doit les Allemands en se rendant facile, mais il y a des gens qui révoltent contre la justice, & contre la raison, & qu'on ne rend dociles que par la crainte. Il me semble qu'on pourroit aisément employer ce dernier moyen, lorsque l'intelligence est parfaite entre le Roi & la Reine; & je répondrois bien, my Lord, du succès des instructions que vous donnerez sur ce sujet.

Permettez-moi de vous apprendre, que Monsieur Buys m'a déjà cité *res est solliciti*; vous m'aviez appris ce qu'il falloit répondre, mais j'admire plus que jamais votre présence d'esprit, & votre sang froid, sans pouvoir l'imiter.

Je vous assure, my Lord, que c'est toujours avec le même plaisir que je rappelle tout ce que je vous ai entendu dire, & je ne suis pas le seul qui regrette le peu de tems que nous vous avons possédé.

Je suis, &c.

DE TORCY.

De.

*De Monsieur de Torcy.*De Versailles, ce 25^{me} Février, 1714.

QUOIQUE je ne doute pas, Monsieur, que Monsieur de Legondez*, Colonel de cavallerie dans les troupes du Roi, ne s'attire de votre part toute la considération qu'il mérite véritablement, j'espère que vous trouverez bon que je vous marque l'intérêt véritable que je prends à ce qui le regarde, & que je vous demande pour lui les bons offices & la protection dont il pourra avoir besoin dans ses affaires en Angleterre, où il s'est marié. Je partagerai avec plaisir les obligations qu'il vous aura, & je vous supplie de croire que l'on ne peut desirer plus que je fais de trouver des occasions de vous marquer que je suis, &c.

DE TORCY.

*From Mr. Prior†.*Paris, February 17th-28th, 1714.

YOU will easily imagine, my dear Lord, the joy I have in being able to return you

* He was taken prisoner at the battle of Blenheim, and remained in England a long time before he obtained his liberty.

† Private.

our little Westminster scholar, who is the bravest boy alive; the Secretary of State could not keep a more just and secret correspondence with any man than he has done with me; and you, Lord Bolingbroke, could not act with Monsieur de Torcy with more strength and with more prudence than he did. Hunter is extremely honest, pray do not let him be forgot; I touched but lightly upon his coming over with the child, and seeing it did not do, for certain reasons, I dropt it. He will not stay long with the lady after the child comes: I will take care that he has clothes and linen as befits the Earl of Jersey's son and Lord Bolingbroke's kinsman. What I write to you of the man in figure in my other letter is poor, my Lord,—is it not? You will hardly imagine that this little philosopher's affair at present is the talk of all Versailles and Paris. Adieu, my dear Lord; when you can send me a word of comfort, in relation to my own affairs, I know you will; and I assure myself that you believe me, unalterably, your servant,

M. PRIOR.

Pray let Elcock bring her a pound of Imperial tea.

A Mon-

A Monsieur de Torcy.

De Whitehall, ce 1^{me} Mars, 1713-14.

LA nouvelle que vous avez pris la peine de m'annoncer, Monsieur, par votre lettre du 25^{me} du mois passé, m'a fait un plaisir que je ne saurai exprimer non plus que la reconnoissance dont je suis pénétré. En nous rendant le petit réfugié, que sa mère par excès de tendresse alloit ruiner sans ressource, vous faites une action digne de vous; s'il y avoit du ressentiment parmi les morts, & si ces Messieurs nous pourroient communiquer ce qu'ils pensent, vous recevrez sans faute des complimens du feu Comte de Jersey. Comme cela ne se peut pas, recevez, s'il vous plaît, les miens en qualité d'ami, & de parent de la maison de Villars.

Madame de Jersey peut compter, & je vous supplie, Monsieur, de me servir dans cette occasion de garand, que je ne négligerai rien de tout ce qui dépend de moi, pour l'éducation de son fils, & pour son avancement. Celui que j'ai choisi pour aller prendre, est un garçon qui me sert d'ecuyer, honnête homme, & dont j'ose répondre de toutes manières. J'espère que Madame de Jersey lui

remettra son fils immédiatement, car je lui donne ordre de presser son retour.

Je suis, Monsieur, très convaincu qu'il y a de gens qui ne deviennent dociles que par la crainte, & que la bonne intelligence, qui subsiste entre nos deux cours, nous met en état d'employer ce moyen très utilement ; mais est-il possible que vous en ayez besoin pour finir votre traité avec l'Empereur ? ne dois-je pas, au contraire, vous féliciter de l'heureuse conclusion des conférences de Rastadt ? L'Empereur paroît à la vérité vouloir, en faisant la paix, jeter les semences de nouveaux troubles, & peut-être ne seroit-il pas mal d'employer, dès-à-présent même, le motif de la crainte, pour empêcher le progrès de ces beaux desseins, que le conseil d'Espagne établi à Vienne, & qui n'a autre chose à faire, s'amuse vraisemblablement à trâmer.

Le compliment que vous me faites, Monsieur, est bien flatteur pour moi ; ce qu'il y a de sûr, c'est que si jamais je puis faire quelque chose de bon, ce sera lorsque je me trouve animé par vos ordres & aidé par vos conseils.

Je ne vous parle pas de nos affaires domestiques. Monsieur d'Iberville, dans lequel
je

prends une confiance telle que vous l'avez souhaité, est en état de vous donner tous les éclaircissemens qu'il vous faut. Je crois qu'il vous en dit assez pour vous montrer que vous devez nous plaindre au lieu de nous blâmer, si les affaires ne vont pas toujours chez nous du train qu'il seroit à desirer. Je suis, &c.

B.

From Mr. Prior.

MY LORD,

Paris, March 3rd, N.S. 1714.

WE have no news as yet from Germany, nor have I any thing yet to trouble you with, except what the Cardinal de Noailles, and the Countess of Jersey furnish; one speaks a little like an Archbishop in relation to the Pope, and the other begins to own herself a subject of the Queen. I have free access to Mr. Villars, he goes abroad with me; has books, and what else is convenient for him; and now, instead of the Lady never being seen, she does me the honour to send for me, at least once a day, *sicut erat in principio*; and whether Bohea or Imperial Tea is to be drank, it is all

done by Mr. Prior's direction. Is it not best that the Queen be intreated in behalf of this silly woman, that she may return? I know these people well enough, to foresee that she will be neglected here; I know the little Lady well enough, to foresee she will be starved. Adieu, my Lord, I am ever, as I ought, your Lordship's, &c.

M. PRIOR.

WE have no letters from England, since those of the 11th-22d, *i. e.* nine days; and we have reports here, that frighten me all day, and keep me awake all night.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, March 9th, 1713.

YOUR Grace shall never have reason to repent of those favourable thoughts which you are pleased to entertain of me, and to express in your private letter of the 20th of the last month, for which I desire your Grace to accept of my most humble thanks.

The vacant bishoprics are not forgot, but
the

the Queen told me, the other day, she would defer a little longer filling them up; and this is, upon my word, all I know of the matter.

The Queen has done, what the Lords of the Council in Ireland imagined she would do, with respect to the petitions from the Aldermen and Sheriffs of Dublin; and to speak plainly to your Grace, the Lords of the Council here, are very unwilling to offer any opinion to her Majesty on Irish affairs, till they have been maturely considered on your side, and come to us fully stated and clearly reported upon.

Some mutinous proceedings at Gibraltar, as well as others, which are apprehended, make it necessary to lose no time in changing that garrison, and two regiments will be drawn from Flanders for that service. The other is to go from Ireland, as in my other letter, I have the honour by the Queen's command to acquaint your Grace, to which I am to add, that considering how much faction has got among the troops, it would be agreeable to her Majesty, if your Grace named a regiment for this service that you looked upon to be tainted with it.

Clayton's has been spoke of as such an one,
besides

besides which the battalion has not been abroad all the war, and is an old one, which will stand in peace.

This intimation in a private manner to your Grace, the Queen judged proper.

I hope soon to have the honour of kissing your Grace's hands, in London, and am for ever, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Lord Chancellor of Ireland.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, March 9th, 1713.

IT would be impertinent in me to go about to offer any consolation to your Lordship, who are much better able to call to your own assistance, under the present affliction, whatever religion or philosophy can suggest, than I am to furnish you with reflections drawn from either. It only remains, therefore, that I console with your Lordship on the great loss you have sustained, and that I assure your Lordship, as I am able with the utmost truth to do, that no friend your Lordship has can take more sincere part in your sorrow than I.

The petitions and cases of the Aldermen

and Sheriffs, which were some days ago received here, are now returned to you by the Queen's command, that so her Majesty may have the sense of her Privy Council, and all her servants, in Ireland, before her, whenever she takes into consideration, what these refractory gentlemen have thought fit to represent.

I know your Lordship will take care to have the whole very clearly and fully reported; and indeed, my Lord, this care is highly necessary, since no good disposition is wanting among your friends on this side, and since you may be assured of the utmost support from home, provided the means of giving it are furnished from you.

Nothing can be more certain, than that the party, in all parts of both kingdoms, are driving things, as far as they are able, to confusion; honest men must be as industrious to preserve the peace of their country, and if the church interest will lay aside their jealousies and resentment, unite heartily together, and have a confidence in those of their friends, who put themselves foremost in trouble and danger, for my own part, I shall hope, that we may see good days; but, certain^{ly}

tain it is, my Lord, that nothing less than this can preserve us from confusion.

The trust her Majesty reposes in your Lordship, is what you have intitled yourself to, by that vigorous and upright discharge of your duty, which drew the rage of the Whigs upon you.

I hope, and am firmly persuaded, that the Queen will in every instance observe the same rule.

The power of the Crown is low, but I must believe, that a proper use of what remains will get the better of faction. I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, March 23rd, 1713.

IN answer to several of your's, I had begun a very long letter to your Lordship, but having been hindered from finishing and dispatching it in due time, by which means many articles are now become stale and out of use, I choose to begin afresh, and to trouble you with nothing but what is proper at the present time.

The

The Queen has the gout in her ankle, as the physicians expected and desired; she is extremely well, and we may indulge ourselves with the hope, that the fatal day of her death, is still at a distance from us.

It is indeed, my Lord, surprisingly strange, that alliances with Denmark, Prussia, or any other foreign power, can be esteemed at Hanover, as true expedients for securing the succession to the crown of Britain. Our laws, our oaths, a just concern for our religion and liberty, will keep the nation firm and steady in their adherence to a Protestant, and in their opposition to a Popish Prince. But if a pretended danger of the succession shall be made use of, to introduce foreign forces amongst us, the object of men's fears may come in time to be changed. Britain must not on any account be made the theatre of confusion; our crown has been given, but our country must not be conquered; and they are the worst enemies of the House of Hanover, who go about to persuade them, that the latter is either necessary or practicable. The House of Lords adjourned last Friday, till Wednesday come sevensnight. The

The Commons will probably adjourn in a day or two, till the same day. In both Houses there are the best dispositions I ever saw, but I am sorry to tell you, that these dispositions are unimproved; the Whigs pursue their plan, with good order, and in concert.

The Tories stand at gaze, expect the Court should regulate their conduct, and lead them on, and the Court seems in a lethargy. Nothing, you see, can come of this, but what would be at once the greatest absurdity, and the greatest misfortune.

The minority, and that minority unpopular, must get the better of the majority who have the sense of the nation on their side. All that can be done is doing, to prevail on our friend, my Lord Treasurer, to alter his measures, to renew a confidence with the Tories, and a spirit in them, and to give a regular motion to all the wheels of government. I am sanguine enough to hope that we shall prevail. Indeed, it would be pity to lose by management, what none can wrest by force out of our hands.

I write thus freely to you, because in such conjunctures especially, you ought not
to

to be ignorant of the true state of affairs at home, and because I know that the part I ought to act towards a friend, I may safely act towards a man of honour. You shall hear again from me, the moment I see through the present confused workings of court and party.

I am sorry that you have had no answer from Count Sinzendorf; since the Emperor has made a step, though a very awkward one, which looks like acquiescing in the system formed for the future settlement of Europe, it would surely be right, that the Queen had a Minister at his Court. The Earl of Scarf-dale has been some time named, and would be dispatched thither, could the way be a little prepared for him.

If the French pretend to affirm, that the Queen has been, in any degree, a party to the negociations at Rastadt, or consulted in them, they are wrong. Communication has, indeed, been given her of the plans sent from Prince Eugene, and when the counter-projects were returned from Versailles, Monsieur d'Iberville has shown them here. You see, my Lord, in this account all the truth. On this head, give me leave to ask, with
what

what face can the Dutch or the Germans complain, that the Queen has done no more?

They removed, at least the Germans did, the Congress from Utrecht. They estranged themselves from the Queen, and excluded her from the secret of their councils. Could she so much as take upon her indirectly the part of a mediatrix, and common friend, in these circumstances? For instance, you know, better than any one, how far the Queen carried the point of abolishing that scandalous clause in the 4th article of the treaty of Ryfwick. The hands of France were tied. It remained only to oblige the Emperor to bring things back to the tenor of the treaty of Westphalia. Would the Dutch, would the Protestant Princes and States of the Empire, take any measures in concert with her Majesty, to induce the Court of Vienna to this reasonable compliance, and could the Queen have interposed for this purpose singly, without exposing herself (forgive the expression) to contempt?

My father makes his acknowledgments to your Lordship, in the letter I inclose.

Allow me to assure you, that I will ever remember the kind and generous part you

took upon you, in behalf of my brother, and that in every circumstance of life, you shall find me a true friend and faithful servant.

I expect George very soon over, and will apply for Mr. Ayerst, according to your orders. I believe Mr. Secretary Bromley will concur with me. Touch on this subject in your first letter to him. Adieu, my dear Lord,
I am, &c.

B.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, April 13th, 1714.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the favour of your Grace's private letters, of the 27th of the last month, and 1st of this.

I have obeyed your commands to Lord Anglesey, with whom I think it is very desirable to maintain a good correspondence, though we have had the misfortune lately to see him differ from us in a very public and remarkable manner*. It gives me great

* Upon the question, whether the Protestant succession was in danger? he spoke for, and voted with the opposite or Whig party.

satisfaction to hear, that we shall soon have your Grace on this side of the water.

I hope you will find the Queen's affairs on a better foot, though they will still be in want of your Grace's wisdom and experience. Indeed, my Lord, the Court and Parliament have been hitherto the scenes of greater confusion, than I was ever witness of; indefatigable pains have been taken, to set right what was become, by the most unaccountable manner, amiss. I think we shall this week break, as it is called, the neck of the Session, and, I hope never to see such another.

I say nothing on the subject of Clayton's regiment, since proper care, according to what your Grace desires, will be taken in the War-office.

I have nothing to add, but my hearty wishes for your prosperous voyage, and my sincere assurances of being, with the utmost respect and truth, my Lord, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Lord Chancellor of Ireland.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, April 13th, 1713.

THE sentiments which your Lordship expresses, in your letter of the 30th of the last month, are worthy of you.

Union among those who wish well to be the constitution, in Church and State, is, to speak in the language of Secretary, a condition *sine quâ non*.

The prospect before us, is dark and melancholy, what will happen, no man is able to foretell, but this proposition is certain, that if the members of the Church of England, lay aside their little piques and resentments, and cement closely together, they will be too powerful a body to be ill treated.

I make no doubt but your Lordship has heard of some differences which subsist amongst us, at this time, for my part, I will go any length to reconcile them, but one. I cannot sit still under the opprobrious reflections, which the Whigs cast daily forth; nor be treated as a criminal, when I am conscious myself, of having deserved well, of my part, of my country.

K k 2

Could

Could I be of any service to Dean Clayton, I would with much pleasure attempt to serve him, both on account of your Lordship's recommendation, and on account of my acquaintance with his brother, with whom I sat many years in the House of Commons.

The hurry, which a busy and warm Session of Parliament occasions has hindered the declaration of your Bishops; but by what the Queen was pleased to say the last time I spoke to her on this subject, I conclude that the nomination is determined. I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

From Mr. Prior.*

MY LORD,

Paris, March 12th-23d, 1714.

MR. BRIGHT, who found me on Tuesday night at Versailles, brought me your Lordship's, of February 28th, together with the Queen's speech. To begin with politics, I think the speech the best I ever read, and I trust in God, it will have the greatest effects: our friend Torcy, had received it the day before, by an express from Monsieur

* Private.

d'Iberville, but he read it again with me, and gave me leave to comment upon it. In short, the two parties here (for such we have as well as our neighbours) look upon it, as what will produce the advantages we expect from the peace, and improve a fair correspondence between the two nations. The news of the peace with the Emperor will, I doubt not, come very opportunely at the beginning of the Session, in such manner as to give eyes to the blind, and save even the reprobate.

I send your little Kinsman to you in the manner you desire, and am very glad your Lordship is satisfied with every step I made in that affair: Monsieur de Torcy showed me your letter to him, and as he acted like a man of great honour upon the occasion, I find him pleased, that his having done so, is so rightly understood, and so kindly taken by you.

The child has no mind to be boarded longer with Mrs. Horden; your Lordship will concert that and all his matters to his satisfaction. I must again do justice to the poor people, Mr. Hunter and Mrs. Bourgois; they are both resolved to leave their Lady, and re-

turn for England: the Lady seems as willing to be rid of them; till she has got French servants, these shall not leave her; but how soon French servants will be weary of her, or how soon she will be weary of herself here, is not in my power to determine. Pray, my Lord, let some little thing be done for Hunter, for he has behaved himself, as well towards the child, as towards myself, with integrity and prudence; la Bourgeoise too, has a good deal of merit in this thing.

I should now acknowledge the private letter of 16th February, but what shall I say, except what I have heard so often, *non progredi est regredi*. England must be saved, my Lord, and it cannot be done either by fools or cowards; though both these sects of Philosophers will find all imaginable faults with you, while you are doing it; and will wonder why they are not recompensed when it is done; they tell you, every thing is dangerous to attempt, and when perfected, they always thought it would be so: what is the substance of all this, my dear Lord? that you must do your duty, that you must think that duty proportioned to the great abilities

God

God has given you, and that you must give your chagrin to the waves and wind. Whilst I say this to you, whom I ought to love, and whom I do love most heartily, am I without possibly more than my share of trouble and apprehension? considering the whimsical circumstances of my fortune, the uncertain situation of my affairs, and my mind constrained to put itself into ten thousand postures, as the caprice of every man that comes from your enchanted island requires. From Selkirk of Châtelhéault to the Jersey Saints and St. Germain's Beggars, through life it is the same, my Lord, and you and I (pardon the familiar conjunction) must bear the importunity, the unreasonableness, and impertinence of the world, or you must go to Bucklebury, and I to St. John's*, which, however disproportioned the retreat may be, let us make it, my dear Lord, as late as ever we can. Adieu, I am, my Lord, inviolably your servant,

MATT.

You are in the right my Lord, when you observe, that people who serve here are re-

* College, Cambridge.

warded; Marechal Villars, the day he saw the King, had the favour of coming always near him, which is not allowed to all the Princes of the Blood, and his son has the *survivance* of the government of Provence.

From Mr. Prior.*

MY DEAR LORD,

Good-friday, 1714.

YOUR affair of Captain Parker would astonish me, if I had not had three or four of the like in my life. I shall obey your orders very punctually, as to what relates to the King of Sicily's interests. I have more than I thought I ever should have done, concerning fiefs, upon the dispute between that Prince and Monaco. I cannot conceal from you, as a friend and a just man, that I apprehend the King of Sicily's claim to be vague and vexatious enough; but, before I enter into the determinative part, I will send the material point stated, and beg your advice; in the mean time, as Lecheraine's complaint is groundless, let me add too that it is not very fair: a new sollicita-

*-Private.

tion,

tion, when the matter is referred to arbitrage, would be censured by Judge Hales, and condemned by Mr. Hooker; but this only to you, my dear Lord.

Another thing touches me infinitely nearer; I mean the last paragraph of your letter: inflammation, pain, indisposition, are words which frighten me out of my wits, especially as expounded by Jacobite and Dutch commentators here. Good God! in case of an accident, what is to become of us all?—And, as I hinted to you, what is to become particularly of your poor friend and servant Mat, in all cases? Pray give a word of comfort, or chide me for asking it. Adieu, my Lord; believe me, your's, &c.

MATT.

From Mr. Prior.

Paris, April 2d-13th, 1714.

BY what I have sent you inclosed, I hope, my dear Lord Bolingbroke, I shall hear no more of fluices “till Shiloh comes.” What are ye all doing in England, and (as these people ask me) who are the Government? For my own part, I hear nothing from that
merry

merry island, but that you, I, and all our friends, are called rogues and rascals all the day long, and in every coffee-house—*Quous-que tandem?*

Monfieur Desmaretz has helped poor Monfieur Calendrini essentially, and will continue to do the same. I affected to go yesterday to Versailles, when I had nothing to do, knowing I should find Monfieur Desmaretz there, to thank him, in your name, upon Monfieur Calandrini's account: I find he took the visit very kindly, and renewed his promises of helping our friend. I protest to you, I have as much satisfaction as if it had been done to myself. Adieu, my Lord, your's entirely,

MATT.

From Mr. Prior.*

MY LORD,

Paris, April 16-27th, 1714.

I ONLY write to you because it is post-day, having nothing to tell, but that we are all in admiration at what you have been doing in England, and that in particular I pity

* Private.

those

those whose business it must be to keep others in their senses.

The Pretender, abandoned by France, yet dreaded from Luneville and Bar-le-Duc, by those men who made a jest of King James attacking us, though supported by this kingdom, and either at St. Germain's or on the coast of Normandy, seems a paradox, till one tells Monsieur de Torcy that those men were then in power, and are not so at present; but a Popish Emperor to be invited into the guaranty of a Protestant succession, is something that I wish I could explain—*Dic aliquem, dic Quintiliane, colorem.* I cannot leave this subject without telling you, that de Buys laughs at us. Every place has its ill: while many at Westminster are troubled in their political persons, the Parisians suffer extremely in their natural bodies, a fever rages here that comes very near to a plague; and almost all day, and in every street, one sees the preparations or marches of a funeral; the distemper began among the meaner people, and was generally attributed to the ill-diet they are forced to take up with, all provisions being at a dearth incredible, but it goes farther, and death

death (according to its usual custom) makes no distinction. In the mean time, all are well at Marli; and so am I, God be thanked! at Paris. I am, in all places and conditions, with great truth, my Lord, your's, &c.

M. PRIOR.

To Mr. Prior.

Whitehall, April 20th, 1714.

IF you have not heard oftener from me, on the subject of our domestic affairs, the reason has been, because I could not tell what to write that would have been intelligible to you. Since we are at a loss how to account for our own proceedings, it is no wonder that you foreigners are in the dark concerning them.

You are in the right, dear Matt, when you say, that those who cannot bear the impertinence and unreasonableness of the world, ought to retire. But give me leave to add, that those who can bear these, and a thousand other faults of this naughty world, are likewise in the right to retire, when by their patience they neither do honour to God, service

service to their Prince, good to their country, nor kindness to their friends ; you will apply this general observation as you judge proper.

The Whigs have affronted the Queen, and teased her servants almost a month without control ; at last a spirit has been exerted, which should, in my poor opinion, have been sooner shown, and they have been defeated in all their attacks, though fortified by a considerable detachment from our party.

The danger of the succession, and the insecurity of the peace, were the two principal articles of clamour ; one has been voted not in danger, and the other has been declared safe, honourable, and advantageous ; the divisions in the two Houses upon these occasions have made our numbers less, but our strength greater.

I am extremely obliged to you, for the good natured part you take in Mr. Calandrini's affairs ; continue, I intreat you, your friendly protection to him, and say from me to Mr. Desmarais, whatever you think may be of use to that afflicted family.

I thank you, for *père* Daniel and Tillemont, but you forgot my Voyages.

Adieu,

Adieu, dear Matt, my compliments to all our friends, particularly to Monsieur de Torcy, for whom I shall always preserve the greatest esteem.

No man loves you better, or is with greater sincerity your faithful servant.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

I WRITE to you by snatches as I can, and you must therefore excuse me, if my answers are not exactly apt to the letters I receive from you, your last is not now before me.

I cannot reflect on what passes here, without blaming and commending at once, in my own thoughts, our administration. Had we dared in the last Sessions, as we have done in this, to oppose at the same time the Whigs, and those who detach themselves occasionally from us, the peace had been long ago sanctioned, commerce opened with France, and the cry about the Protestant succession silenced. The reverse of this we did, and the reverse of this happened.

But, my Lord, to stand for more than a
month

month the severest inquisition, into the conduct of three the busiest years of a century ; to account not only for what has been done, but also for every step by which it was done, neither to divert enquiries by the common artifice of Courts, nor to skreen ourselves behind the throne ; these considerations give me, I confess, some satisfaction, since the conclusion of all is, that the opposers have been able to fix no blame, nor to charge any one man : on the contrary, we have wound up the whole enquiry by an address of the House of Lords, in which the Commons will join, on Thursday next, to express our sense of her Majesty's goodness to her people, in delivering them, by a safe, honourable, and advantageous peace with France and Spain, from the heavy burden of a consuming Land War, unequally carried on, and become at last impracticable ; and to entreat her Majesty, that she will be pleased, with the same steadiness, to pursue such measures as she shall judge proper, notwithstanding any obstructions which have been, or may be thrown in her way, to complete the settlement of Europe according to the principles laid down in her Speech from the Throne.

I need

I need make no comment on these words, they confirm all that is past, and cut off all hopes from those, who endeavoured to hinder the peace, if unravelling it now it is made, which, in the debate, was the professed design of those who spoke.

I make no doubt but your Lordship will improve this, both with the Imperialists and the Dutch.

The Queen has forbid Monsieur Schultz * the Court, and surely with reason ; this gentleman thought fit to demand, of my Lord Chancellor, the writ for the Duke of Cambridge, without the decency of giving her Majesty the least intimation of it, or so much as making her a compliment, which she might expect from a Prince of her Blood, who intended to come into her kingdom.

Indeed, my Lord, at this rate the dispute will not be between the House of Hanover and the Pretender any more ; the Queen will become a party ; and they are no friends to the Protestant succession, who advise such measures as force her to be so. Whether the Duke of Cambridge will come, now his writ is delivered, or whether it was

* The Hanoverian Envoy.

asked only in hopes it would be refused, I know not; but surely to come hither with an air of defiance to the Queen, and on the foot of a party, is the unwiseft and most unnecessarily desperate resolution that ever yet was taken. The bulk of this nation will be true to their oaths, but they will, among these oaths, in the first place remember that of allegiance to the Queen.

Mr. Harley is ordered to demand the recall of Schultz, and Lord Paget will be going to Hanover very soon, to bring that Court, if possible, to a better notion of their own interest.

April 23rd, 1714.

SINCE I wrote thus far, Schultz is gone from hence, the purpose of his voyage we know not, but if we may believe what is given out, his errand is to press the coming of his young master.

Your letter of the 1st of May, came yesterday to my hands, and I do not wonder that people in Holland were confounded, and even you perplexed. The former part of this letter accounts for the general state of things.

As to the disputes between my Lord Trea-

surer and me, it is certain we were not of the same opinion. I hope, and believe, my Lord is my friend; certain it is that I have in this Session shown myself his friend, the particulars of which you will hear from others, better than from me. Among friends it may be owned that there was some talk of laying down, but the Queen over-ruled that start of passion, and my Lord has now the ball at his foot to drive as he pleases.

I own to your Lordship, I think we are now, though less in number, stronger than we ever were, because the utmost detachment of wavering people is made, and the troops that remain are firm and to be depended upon. We have it in our power to give the law at home, and in great measure abroad too.

I defer speaking to you on Foreign affairs, till next week, after the committee and the council have sat. Adieu, my dear Lord, &c.

B.

Mr. Decker will order twenty pistoles to be sent to your Lordship's Secretary, next post, which, I beg, he may give to the woman who teases you so much.

A Ma-

A Madame la Princesse des Ursins.

MADAME,

De Whitehall, ce 23^{me} d'Avril, 1714.

SI, malheureusement la guerre entre les deux nations eut continué jusques à présent, telle étoit l'idée que nous avions conçu des vertus de votre incomparable Reine, que j'ose répondre à votre Altesse, que sa mort n'auroit été pleurée en aucun pays avec plus de sincérité que dans la Grande Bretagne. Vous jugerez par-là, Madame, de la vive douleur que nous avons ressentie en perdant une Princesse qui avoit non-seulement contribué à faire la paix, mais de l'influence de laquelle, nous nous promettions de voir confirmer de plus en plus cette union étroite, que la Providence de Dieu n'a permis d'être interrompue pendant quelques années, que pour marquer d'autant plus sensiblement aux Espagnols & à nous autres, combien il est de l'intérêt commun de la conserver dans son entier, & d'empêcher que les brouilleries du reste de l'Europe n'y donnent de l'atteinte.

Il n'est pas à propos que je parle à votre Altesse des sentimens de la Reine sur ce triste sujet. Sa Majesté qui écrit elle-même au

L 1 2

Roi

Roi Catholique saura mieux dépeindre & ses réflexions sur le passé, & ses vues pour l'avenir, que je le pourrois faire. Mais votre Altesse me donnera, s'il lui plaît, la permission de lui dire deux mots sur un sujet dont Monsieur Lawless est instruit, & dont il aura l'honneur apparemment de lui écrire plus en détail. Votre Altesse se souviendra que nous avons représenté d'ici, à plusieurs reprises, la crainte que nous avons que divers traités & accommodemens restant imparfaits, & la négociation générale par conséquent trop ouverte, la Cour Impériale & les autres ennemis de la paix par dehors, & les factieux ligués avec eux dedans ce Royaume, trouveroient à la longue les moyens de susciter de nouveaux obstacles au rétablissement de la tranquillité publique. En effet, ils y ont travaillé, pendant les dernières séances du Parlement, avec une application surprenante; & ont fait leurs derniers efforts, pour détourner la Reine de la poursuite des mesures qu'elle a prise, & pour lesquels sa conduite a été réglée depuis plus de trois ans. Ils n'ont pas réussi; tous leurs desseins ont échoué, & les deux chambres se sont déclarés d'un tel ton sur la paix, & sur les moyens les plus propres

propres de la rendre universelle, que la Reine se trouve (si j'ose me servir de cette expression) plus que jamais maîtresse de ses actions.

Dans la chaleur de ces contestations, il est arrivé une chose, qui a fait beaucoup de peine à sa Majesté. Il y a du tems qu'on tâche d'animer le peuple en supposant des intrigues trâmées en faveur du Chevalier de St. George. La résidence de Monsieur Lawless à notre Cour a été alléguée comme un fait sur lequel ces soupçons étoient appuyés. La conduite de ce gentilhomme a été sans reproche ; il a mérité l'estime & la confiance de tout ce qu'il y a d'honnêtes gens ; ceux-là mêmes, qui paroissent les plus emportés dans cette occasion, ne pouvoient refuser à son caractère les louanges qui lui sont dûes. Mais il étoit né sujet de la Reine, & il avoit servi feu son père. Votre Altesse, qui n'est pas accoutumée aux convulsions, que les gouvernemens populaires ressentent de tems en tems, fera peut-être surprise du récit que je lui fais. Ces désordres sont les mauvais effets d'une très bonne cause, & on se dédommage par l'une de ce que l'on souffre par les autres. La Reine a cru que pour calmer les esprits, & pour les mener au but qu'elle se

proposoit, ce prétexte, dont nos factieux se servoient, devoit leur être ôté. Mais les égards qu'elle a, & qu'elle veut toujours conserver pour le Roi Catholique, la jettoient dans un grand embarras.

Dans cette situation des affaires, j'ai pris le parti de m'ouvrir à Monsieur Lawless lui-même. Comme il connoît parfaitement bien la constitution de ce royaume, & le génie de ce peuple, il est tombé d'accord avec moi, qu'il rendroit à la Reine un service très essentiel, & par conséquent qu'il ne déplairoit point au Roi son maître s'il faisoit semblant d'avoir reçu des ordres de la Cour de se rendre auprès des Ministres d'Espagne qui sont en Hollande. Je ne puis pas exprimer à votre Altesse combien la Reine a été sensible à cette marque de son bon su, & de son zèle pour le service. Elle m'a chargé d'en écrire à votre Altesse, & de la prier de continuer à Monsieur Lawless, qui en est digne de toutes les manières, de sa puissante protection.

Monsieur de Bingley, que la Reine a nommé pour être son Ambassadeur Extraordinaire auprès du Roi d'Espagne, partira en huit jours. Il n'y a rien que la Reine souhaite tant que de lier une correspondance
avec

avec sa Majesté Catholique, qui se trouve rarement entre les Princes ; & pour cet effet, elle a choisi de toute sa Cour le sujet le plus propre. Sur le sujet des Catalans & des Majorcains, votre Altesse veut bien que je me remette à ce que Monsieur de Bingley aura l'honneur de lui dire. A l'égard de sa souveraineté, la Reine prendra au Congrès de Bade, & par tout ailleurs les plus efficaces, pour l'accomplissement de la garantie qu'elle a donnée, & pourvu que la France veuille tenir, tant soit peu, ferme sur cet article, je ne doute point qu'il ne soit réglé à la satisfaction de votre Altesse dans le prochain traité. Je suis, &c.

B.

A Monsieur le Marquis de Montéleon.

MONSIEUR,

De Whitehall, ce 27^{me} d'Avril, 1714.

L'INDISPOSITION dont j'ai été accablé depuis quelques jours, m'empêche non-seulement de vous écrire de ma propre main, mais aussi m'obligera de vous parler plus succinctement que je n'avois dessein, sur la situation présente de nos affaires. Monsieur

L 1 4

Lawless

Lawless, qui vous va trouver, suppléera fort amplement à ce dernier défaut. Vous ferez peut-être surpris de le voir, mais quand il vous aura rendu compte de ce qui est passé chez nous, & des raisons qu'il a eu de prendre la résolution de passer en Hollande, je suis très persuadé que vous ferez du sentiment, qu'il a agi en homme de bon sens, & qu'en contribuant à donner un heureux fin aux séances de notre Parlement, il n'a pas laissé de servir utilement son maître. Dans les gouvernemens qui ont quelque mélange de la démocratie, il devient très souvent raisonnable de céder à des demandes déraisonnables ; & pour pouvoir conduire le gros des affaires au but qu'on se propose, il est quelquefois nécessaire de calmer les esprits par des complaisances, qui ne sont de la prudence, ni même de la bienveillance. J'écris à un Ministre connu aux affaires du monde, ainsi je ne doute pas, Monsieur, que vous ne jugerez sainement de ce qui vient d'arriver, & que vous ne fassiez à votre Cour une représentation juste de ce contretems, qui doit assurément être plus sensible à nous qu'à vous.

Il est certain, Monsieur, que la grande
facilité

facilité que la France a montré, aux conférences de Rastadt, a fait prendre à l'Empereur un air de supériorité, nullement proportionnée à l'état où il se trouvoit ; après quoi il n'est pas étonnant que les Hollandois donnent des marques les plus outrées de leur soumission à la maison d'Autriche.

Vous me citez un exemple de cette soumission dans leur conduite, par rapport à la souveraineté de Madame la Princesse des Ursins : je pourrois vous en citer d'autres, où ils traitent la Reine, pour le moins aussi cavalièrement que le Roi d'Espagne ; & où, pour faire leur cour à l'Empereur, ils sacrifient les intérêts de leur religion, & ceux de la généralité de l'Europe. Il faut tâcher d'inspirer d'autres sentimens aux Ministres de cette République ; & pour y réussir, il faut trouver les moyens de rendre la Cour de Vienne plus traitable ; permettez-moi de vous dire, avec franchise, qu'à cet effet, il faut plus de suppléssé dans votre Cour, & plus de fermeté dans la mienne ; travaillez, Monsieur, s'il vous plaît, à l'un, pendant que je travaille à l'autre.

Monsieur de Bingley partira dans sept ou huit jours, pour Madrid ; au nom de Dieu,

que le Roi ait la bonté de prendre en lui quelque confiance. Il fera en état de faire des ouvertures d'une plus étroite liaison entre nos deux Cours, & de certaines mesures qui, malgré l'opiniâtreté des uns, & la facilité des autres, termineront, à la fin, toutes choses, si je ne me trompe fort, à la satisfaction de sa Majesté Catholique. En attendant, Monsieur le Comte de Strafford, agira de nouveau auprès des Ministres de l'Etat, & la Reine se servira, le plus utilement qu'elle peut, des villes qui lui ont été mises en dépôt, & de la cession des Pays-Bas, faite par Monsieur l'Electeur de Bavière qu'elle a entre les mains, pour assurer à la Princesse des Ursins cette souveraineté, dont le Roi d'Espagne souhaite qu'elle jouisse.

Mandez-moi quand nous devons espérer de vous voir ici, & faites-moi la justice d'être persuadé, que je suis, &c.

B.

To the Earl of Strafford.

April 27th, 1714.

THOUGH I find others, who are exposed to less trouble and less danger too, in our domestic

meftic ftuggles, on account of them, forbear giving a due attention to foreign affairs, yet, my Lord, I cannot make ufe of the fame pretence. Befides the public good, the honour of the Queen, and the reputation of thofe who have been entrusted by her, are, methinks, fo deeply concerned in perfecting the whole fcheme of the peace, that I look as ftedfaftly as ever at the fame point of view, which we have all along had.

The letters from your Lordfhip, which Mr. Secretary Bromley laid before the Queen yefterday, affect me a great deal. I fee the fettlement of Europe hangs, I fee a new air of fuperiority affumed by the Imperialifts, yielded to by the French, and fubmitted to by the Dutch. Nothing, in my opinion, can effectually determine all parties to conclude, can put an end to old differences, and prevent new ones, but a vigorous way of acting in our Court, and fhewing our allies either that there is no oppofition to the Queen's meafures, or that the ftrength, which is formed, will be fo fteadily and vigorously exerted, as to render all oppofition vain.

To this purpofe, I have laboured this Sef-
fion,

sion, more than ever I did in the whole course of my life ; and in the utmost confidence I will say to you, that the stand which was made, which occasioned such rumours abroad, and which, I never expect to be forgiven by some at home, forced us out of our sleeping indolence, and occasioned the new turn which affairs in both Houses have taken.

If good use is made of this advantage, we may restore our credit, and give a due weight to the Queen's influence ; if we revert into our former management, we shall grow contemptible, both here and every where else : this I take to be a true state of the case ; but, however, my Lord, let us act like men of courage and public spirit ; let those who guide the helm answer for the course of the ship, but let us hand the sails, and do our part of the work, without reproach.

Mr. Whitworth will be immediately dispatched into the Empire : I prevailed last night, that he should not be ordered directly to Baden, which might have exposed him to make a very mean figure, the French and Imperialists being locked up there, as they were

were at Rastadt, and no assembly of the Ministers of the Princes of the States of the Empire being formed: he will stay a few days in Holland, and proceed to Frankfort, and, if occasion be, to Augsberg.

The Protestants will see that the Queen is in good earnest to support them, if they are not wanting to themselves, in case they take this step, on her Majesty's part, as they ought to do, repair to Baden, and demand what the treaties of Westphalia entitle them to, and what France has promised not to oppose: Mr. Whitworth may repair to Baden too, and act with the dignity which becomes the Queen's Minister. But if they blindly give up their religious as well as civil interest to the Emperor, Mr. Whitworth will not go to Baden, to expose his character.

Some good may result from his journey, even in the latter case; for, besides the reputation to the Queen of having gone the utmost lengths in so good a cause, he will have an opportunity of feeling the pulses of the several powers, of discovering how far their dispositions may be reconciled to that scheme, which her Majesty must pursue; in
a word

a word, on what terms the Queen may renew her correspondence with all of them, and particularly with the Court of Vienna.

As to the condition of Sweden, I lament it, from the bottom of my heart; and there is no doubt but in good policy, as a trading, as a Protestant nation, we ought to do our utmost to prevent the ruin of that kingdom, which does not seem to be at the distance of many months. But, my Lord, what can you expect, when we dare not trust ourselves to stand alone? In our present circumstances, you will see, by Mr. Secretary's letter, all the Queen is advised to say or do, which, God knows! is next to nothing. If Prussia would interpose so far, as to prevent the conquest of Sweden this summer, I think we may be in a condition, at least I hope it, to support that enterprize, and to interpose with the Northern allies before the end of the year.

It is surprizing that the States will, on neither of these heads, concur with the Queen, since it is certain that, united with her, they might act safely on both, and that a strict friendship between her Majesty and them, is a sure, as well as a more honourable, way
of

of obtaining what they expect from the Emperor, than that which they follow—a servile, mean submission to him.

But I confess to you, my Lord, my wonder ceases at these things, when I hear they entertain thoughts of settling their barrier at Vienna, without allowing the Queen the opportunity to take care of herself or them. This is a note above *à la*; this is keeping no measures, and declaring they will keep none. For God's sake, my Lord, speak very seriously, and very plainly, on this subject, and let them not imagine that the Queen wants their assistance. She has resources in this case, if she is pushed to extremity, and will be able to assert her own honour, and to secure the interest of her subjects; but, as one that wishes well to the States, as one who thinks the interest of the two nations depend on their union, divert them from such a resolution.

I know the ease on one side that this step of the States will give us, but the inconveniencies are greater on the other.

It is ridiculous to see the peace of two nations hang on the sovereignty of Madame des Ursins, and I hope it will not do so
2 much

much longer. In the mean time, we must humour the King of Spain, and keep up the appearance of supporting our engagements: if the point is lost, let France have the odium of losing it, as, in good measure, they have already.

I had something else to have said to you, but being called away, your Lordship is reprieved till next post. Adieu, my dear Lord; preserve me your friendship, and be assured that I will be ever the same.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

May 18th, 1714.

I WAS hindered by unavoidable business, which intervened, from writing to your Lordship last week, and am now in debt very considerably to you.

For God's sake, do not excuse the complaining air with which you speak, in one of your letters, concerning the present state of foreign affairs; if you find fault with yourself for being on this account uneasy, you reproach me severely. I have been under the utmost vexation of mind, and I have
not

not concealed it, to see our influence abroad, and even before the general negociation; and there is no ill-consequence of our domestic disorders which has touched me so sensibly as this, at least no one of those by which I have been personally affected.

I agree with your Lordship in the fact you represent, and in the causes you assign; but the main cause of all, that which must be altered, or no other remedies can prove effectual, is our home economy: till the Queen's government is on a stable foot, and those who serve her are, by their authority, as well as their personal character, *bors d'insulte*, little reverence will be paid, either at home or abroad, to the administration, little dependance on it will be shown, and we shall hope in vain to see the natural and genuine effects of that great work, which your Lordship had so great a share in accomplishing, produced. That the Queen may be able to bring this to pass, I most heartily wish, for the honour, for the quiet of her own reign, and for the happiness of our country; and if it be brought to pass, I assure your Lordship it shall be indifferent to me by what hands it is so.

The little I could do, I have done honestly, zealously, indefatigably, towards this end; the consciousness of which will be a reward to me, and I have learned to expect no other.

Mr. Whitworth's instructions are ready, and will be signed, I believe, in a day or two; after which I know nothing to keep him here. I do not assume any merit to myself, in the thought of not sending him directly and abruptly to Baden, but am proud that it was your Lordship's, and that I happened to fall on the same.

I am heartily glad to find, by your Lordship's of the 25th, that there are at present no farther thoughts entertained of sending the Duke of Cambridge over, and I am glad of it, because I wish well to the Protestant succession. Parties may find their account in a contest between her ally and the House of Hanover, but surely the plain interest of this House is to live well with the Queen, and, after her decease, to ascend the throne with a national concurrence, and not be handed to it by any particular set of men.

For my own part, my duty and allegiance are to the Queen, during her time, and my respect

respect shall be paid the successor in no manner which is inconsistent with that first obligation. After the Queen, if I live after her, I will be true to my principle, and to my call, at the expence of all I have: these are the sentiments of the best and honestest men, and will be found to be so, whenever the trial shall be made. I am not fond of speaking on any subject concerning myself, and especially on this, because what I profess and swear to be for, he that believes me to be against, shall never make me think it worth my while to go about to convince him. But to you, in friendship, I say thus much, because, among those artifices, which I detest and despise, it has been thought proper to insinuate to the world, that I leaned to another interest, and that the disputes which have lately happened at Court were occasioned by the favour of some men to the Pretender's cause; and then your servant has been named with such others as desired method, concert, perspicuity, steadiness, and vigour in the Administration. Something has happened, a few days since, which relates to this head, and which you will perhaps hear of, with a wrong turn; I will,

therefore, take up so much more of your time, as to state it truly to you : In the Select Committee, where estimates are prepared for the House of Commons, a demand was silently introduced of the arrears due to the Hanover troops, and Mr. Auditor Harley attending, with three or four more, early one morning, it was ordered to be reported to the House, as an article of this year's supply. Till then I knew nothing of this transaction, and the Queen was entirely ignorant of it ; as soon as it came to me, I declared to my friends, who asked my opinion, that the method of proceeding was entirely wrong ; that I thought it inexcusable to the Queen, and not very honourable to the House of Hanover ; that the appearance to the world would be very odd, if a vote of Parliament should pass, to pay what her Majesty declared should not be paid, without any intermediate signification of the Queen's having altered her first resolution ; that, in so particular a case, it was no excuse to say, that all the particular items of the several estimates are comprehended in the general demand made for a supply from the Throne at the beginning of a Session ;
that

that therefore this article ought to be postponed, till her Majesty's pleasure was known; and that if she pleased to signify her desire to have this sum given, it should be voted with the unanimous consent of the House, which certainly would be more agreeable to the Elector, than the obtaining it by a side-wind, and by such an aukward proceeding as is never used but in unjustifiable cases. This seemed so agreeable to the sense of our friends, that they resolved to conduct themselves accordingly, and no mention would have been made of the thing yet a-while, had not the Whigs precipitated the debate, and brought it on last Thursday; the consequence whereof was, that upon the division it was laid aside, without being rejected, by the resolution of leaving the Chair. I am sure, if right measures are taken, the Queen will recommend this payment to the House, and I took the liberty to advise Monsieur Kregenbergh *, to apply in form for such a recommendation; then, my Lord, the money will be voted without a negative, but else, I think, it will be hardly obtained. If a compliment is to be made, let the Queen and

* The Hanoverian Resident.

Parliament make it. Surely no man, no set of men, should take so much upon them. Whatever colour this proceeding may be represented under to you, depend on what I write to be the truth, and all the truth. I know you to be a man of honour, and my friend, and therefore, I account for my conduct in this manner to you, that you may justify me to yourself, and to others too, if you find it needful.

I am sorry that Lawless gives you no better satisfaction, and do assure you, that he has no grounds to value my facility on that head of Portugal. I have told him my opinion very frankly on that head, and several others, and have often repeated to him, that the Court of Spain would not have been in a condition to make these difficulties now, had the Queen not, some time ago, acted for them, in a confidence that they would have been more reasonable, and more under her influence.

I forgot to tell your Lordship, in the former part of this letter, that I wondered as much as you, at Mr. Harley's haste to leave Hanover, in this point of time; for my Lord Paget is still here; and that I am entirely
ignorant

ignorant of his reason, or the orders he has had.

The Queen was ill on Saturday night, of an indigestion, and some degree of fever, but she is now extremely well again, and will, I believe, return to Kensington in a day or two.

And now, my dear Lord, let me say a word or two concerning that part of your former letter, which relates to yourself. In the first place, I will serve you in your own way on every occasion, where I can be useful to you, and therefore, in the next place, you must allow me to tell you frankly my thoughts, according to the best judgment I have.

Hitherto, I have not seen that your embassy to France, was advisable on the Queen's account, or your own. It was fit you should finish those affairs you had begun, and carried on; it was fit, not to flatter you, that a man of your quality, spirit, experience, and industry, should continue, at least till now, in Holland. It is not fit that you should reside at the Court of France, until some person of an equal character is appointed, and actually sent from thence to

the Queen ; and though the Marquis d'Aligre was named, yet, if I mistake not, he was intended only to be Ambassador in ordinary ; and, besides, I believe, the thoughts even of his coming hither are laid aside, at least, we hear no more on the subject. These are the considerations which weigh with me, and I submit them to you. At the same time, if a Minister of quality, and of the same character with yourself, should be named for our Court by that of France, I should not hesitate a moment about your going to Paris.

I do assure your Lordship, I will be a faithful solicitor for Mr. Donneban, and that si all I have in my power. I defer answering a letter which your sister * did me the honour to write me, till I can do it to some purpose.

Adieu, my dear Lord, ever your slave,

BOLINGBROKE.

The article out of the Leyden Gazette, is very scandalous ; I would give a good sum to know from what villain the writer had his intelligence, which is equally false and

* Probably Arabella, married to Lord Bellew of Ireland.

filly.

filly. I submit to your Lordship, how far you will judge proper to take notice of the treatment, which your friend, and the Queen's servant meets with; a fact of public notoriety may be falsely represented, and a Gazetteer may be imposed upon; but he who prints an account of what is pretended to have passed in Council, must know that he avers what he can have no foundation for. On this occasion, I must touch a particular, which I once spoke of to Van Borsele, but he is so heavy a creature, that he apprehends nothing. Hermitage, a pedling réfugié newswriter, is a sort of agent for the States in this town. His relations, by every post, I see, and I suppose your Lordship does so too; they are one continued thread of mistake, blunder, and lie. Is it possible, that the Ministers of Holland, can receive any advantage from such correspondence? can there be any reason for employing such a wretch, unless they desire that their Gazetteers should be furnished with false accounts of men and things? Surely, this article is of some consequence, if they are willing to heal the wounds which have been made,
and

and bring the two nations once more to a cordial union.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, May 20th, 1714.

I CONVEYED to the Queen your Grace's commands, concerning Lord Blaney, by the first opportunity after I received them, but found her Majesty already engaged to recommend Lord Ferrers's son to your Grace. I should have given you this account sooner, but that I mislaid the minute, and had quite forgot the thing, till yesterday, among other papers, I chanced to light on this memorandum.

I hope we shall not be much longer deprived of the happiness of seeing your Grace on this side the water.

We say our Session will end in three weeks, and I think, it cannot well be spun out beyond Midsummer, though there are, I am certain, private instructions to some people to lengthen it as much as possible.

I beg your Grace to be persuaded, that I
am

am, with the utmost respect and truth, my
Lord, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

From Mr. Prior.*

MY LORD,

Paris, April 24th....May 5th, 1714.

THE Duke of Berry died yesterday morning, at three o'clock, in the twenty-eighth year of his age; he has only one daughter, and the Duchess is with child. A general melancholy reigns in every body's face and discourse upon this occasion; but your Lordship knows these people well enough, to take it for granted, that three days will put an end to any sorrow that they are capable of receiving; the same being, as you know, the festival of St. George, and of her Majesty's coronation, I had all the English, *i. e.* British Nobility and Gentry, to dine with me. The news of this Prince's death made our joy less noisy, than otherwise it would have been, by the dismissal of our trumpets and violins; but in every other circumstance, our enter-

* Private.

tainment

tainment was very magnificent ; and, perhaps, my Lord Treasurer, may say, too expensive : *n'importe*, my Lord, with all this it is pretty hard to satisfy fifty Britons, even while you treat them ; so God help every body that has to do with the public.

If it may please God to preserve the health of our great and good Queen, the founder and occasion of our feast, may he dispose of the lives of all other Princes and Potentates of Christiandom, as seems meet to his Providence.

Last Thursday's, *i. e.* Thursday se'nnight's letters are come in, by which I have not one word from England ; but I hear from Monsieur de Torcy what makes my heart ache ; however, I endeavour to palliate it. I am, ever, &c.

M. PRIOR.

P.S. If the Queen sends any man of great quality to condole upon this occasion, I find it would be agreeable to the Duke of Richmond to have that commission.

From

From Mr. Prior.*

MY DEAR LORD AND FRIEND,

Paris, 1st-12th May, 1714.

MATTHEW had never so great occasion to write a word to Henry as now ; it is noised here, that I am soon to return. The question that I wish I could answer to the many that ask, and to our friend Colbert de Torcy (to whom I made your compliments in the manner you commanded) is, what is done for me, and to what I am recalled ? It may look like a bagatelle, what is to become of a philosopher like me ; but it is not such, what is to become of a person who had the honour to be chosen, and sent hither as intrusted, in the midst of a war, with what the Queen designed should make the peace ; returning with the Lord Bolingbroke one of the greatest men in England, and one of the finest heads in Europe (as they say here, if true or not, *n'importe*) having been left by him in the greatest character (that of her Majesty's Plenipotentiary) exercising that power conjointly with the Duke of Shrewsbury, and solely after his departure ; having here received more distinguished honour than any Minister, ex-

* Private, by Mr. Barton.

cept an Ambaffador, ever did, and some which were never given to any, but who had that character, having had all the fuccefs that could be expected, having (God be thanked !) fpared no pains ; at a time when at home the peace is voted fafe and honourable ; at a time when the Earl of Oxford is Lord Treasurer, and Lord Bolingbroke firft Secretary of State, this unfortunate perfon, I fay, neglected, forgot, unnamed to any thing that may fpeak the Queen fatisfied with his fervices, or his friends concerned as to his fortune.

Monfieur de Torcy put me quite out of countenance, the other day, by a pity that wounded me deeper than ever did the cruelty of the late Lord Godolphin ; he faid he would write to Robin and Harry about me : God forbid, my Lord, that I fhould need any foreign interceffion, or owe the leaft to any Frenchman living, befides decency of behaviour, and the returns of common civility. Some fay I am to go to Baden, others that I am to be added to the Commiffioners for fettling the commerce ; in all cafes I am ready, but in the mean time, *dic aliquid de tribus capellis* : neither of thefe two are, I prefume, honours or rewards, neither of them
(let

(let me say to my dear Lord Bolingbroke, and let him not be angry with me) are what Drift may aspire to, and what Mr. Whitworth, who was his fellow-clerk, has or may possess. I am far from desiring to lessen the great merit of the gentleman I named, for I heartily esteem and love him: but in this trade of ours, my Lord, in which you are the General, as in that of the soldiery, there is a certain right acquired by time and long service. You would do any thing for your Queen's service, but you would not be contented to descend, and be degraded to a charge no way proportioned to that of Secretary of State, any more than Mr. Ross, though he would charge a party with a halbard in his hand, would be content all his life after to be a serjeant; was my Lord Dartmouth from Secretary returned again to be Commissioner of trade; or from Secretary of War, would Frank Gwin think himself kindly used to be returned again to be Commissioner? In short, my Lord, you have put me above myself, and if I am to return to myself, I shall return to something very discontented and uneasy; I am sure, my Lord, you will make the best use you can of this hint for my good. If I am to
have

have any thing, it will certainly be for her Majesty service, and the credit of my friends in the Ministry, that it be done before I am recalled from hence, lest the world may think either that I have merited to be disgraced, or that ye dare not stand by me ; if nothing is to be done, *fiat voluntas Dei*.

I have writ to Lord Treasurer upon this subject, and having implored your kind intercession, I promise you, it is the last remonstrance of this kind, that I will ever make. Adieu, my Lord, all honour, health, and pleasure to you.

Yours ever,

MATT.

P.S. Lady Jersey is just gone from me ; we drank your health together in Usquebaugh, after our tea ; we are the greatest friends alive. Once more adieu. There is no such thing as the books of Travels you mentioned, if there be, let friend Tilson send us a more particular account of them, for neither I nor Jacob Tonson can find them. Pray send Barton back to me, and I hope with some comfortable tidings.

From

From Mr. Prior.*

MY LORD,

May 1st-12th, 1714; ten at night.

BARTON was at St. Dennis, with the inclosed packets, when he met Smith, who brought me your Lordship's of the 27th April, with my letters of revocation. General Hill had writ to me from Dunkirk, and upon it I had spoke to Monsieur de Torcy, and am to-morrow to go to Marli upon that subject; in the mean time, I refer your Lordship to what I have already writ, and with which I dispatch Barton away again: I hope he will bring me a word of comfort, for as yet my own poor affairs look very untowardly.

I am ever, my Lord, &c.

M. PRIOR.

Les affaires importantes au-dedans du royaume: I would fain know what they are.

* Private, by Barton.

From Mr. Prior.*

Paris, May 7-18th, 1714.

YOU will find by Lady Jersey's inclosed letter, that she has a mind to return to England, at least for some time ; it will certainly be best for her, for (to say the truth on't) they begin to grow very weary of her here ; but how far she deserves the Queen's pardon and kindness, or how convenient it may be for you to intercede in her behalf, I am not able to judge : all that I know is, that she has always done perversely, and I have alternately quarrelled and been friends with her, for twenty years together ; and so it must continue, for I do not find that any body alters.

Pray send gaping Barton back again, and let me have your particular commands by him, which shall always be executed as they ought to be, by yours ever,

M. PRIOR.

From Mr. Prior†.

Paris, 12th-23d May, 1714.

BARTON is come, and I thank you, my dear Lord, for your three private letters ; as

* Private.

† Private.

to

to the first, God help us all, I will do my duty ; and though like the fellow in the Scripture, I cannot dig, and am ashamed to beg—*Parlons d'autres choses.*

I have inculcated to our friend Torcy what you write to me, relating to the state of our trade conferences, and I believe your private letter will have the effect we desire, and which I write word in my public dispatch. God bless you for keeping Barton till you enabled him to bring me what has quashed the various reports we had here upon the subject of the Queen's health. It is a long time, my Lord, that I have practised to dissemble, under a face, not handsome, but seemingly pleased enough, a heart melancholy enough. I will think all will be right, and beg you to believe it is one of the greatest blessings of my life that you think me your friend ; and I assure you, I am, with the greatest zeal, your servant,

M. P.

From Mr. Prior.*

Mem. to LORD BOLINGBROKE.

Paris, May 12th-23d, 1714.

AMONGST other things which I should do, before I leave France, should not I have your order to say something from the Queen, to the Elector of Bavaria? of which I find he is in great expectation.

Should not I likewise say something immediately from yourself to Monsieur de Torcy? If I gave a letter from you to Monsieur Desmaretz, *novi hominis mores*: in which you would acknowledge his kindness to Monsieur Calandrini, it might facilitate that gentleman's affair, and be of service to his family. I know the hurry of your affairs in England is such, as not to give you a moment's time to think of these sort of matters, and that I might with equal reason desire a Sea-captain in a storm to settle accounts with me: do therefore, my Lord, what you think best, believing only that in what I hint I intend for the best, and that as I have hitherto gone on civilly with these people, I would leave them in the same manner.

* Private.

To

To the Lord Chaucellor of Ireland,

MY LORD,

Whitehall, May 20th, 1714.

THE multitude of business which I have had upon my hands, is the true reason why your Lordship has not heard more punctually from me, and the multitude of business in which you must have been involved, will make your Lordship the more easily excuse this omission.

It is with reason, that your Lordship expresses your surprise at our late unhappy divisions, and that you lament the bad consequences, which are naturally to be expected from them. Before this Parliament sat down, nay, before the last Parliament rose, the mischief, which a want of union among the Tories, and a want of concert between the Court and the party would produce, was very apparent. I hoped, indeed, that the violence of your Irish Whigs had wrought a good effect. I saw plainly that it awakened those who seemed the most secure, and had in the proper place roused a spirit of keeping no measures with that faction, which kept none with the Crown.

I hoped, therefore, that the whole Church interest would, as one man, have laid hold of this favourable conjuncture, to support the Queen, exclusive of all other assistance, to vest all power in themselves, and by these means to establish themselves for the present age, and for futurity. To these purposes, the best I could do was done; and my Lord Anglesey, who was privy to all transactions, and in confidence with whom, I assure your Lordship, I have always been particularly desirous to act, is able to tell you, that some of us were empowered to give from the Queen, the utmost assurances, that an honest Tory heart could wish to receive. It happened that this made no impression, and as long as the succession remained in danger, nothing else was, it seemed, to be regarded. This danger of the succession was the subject of many private debates, and very fatally, in my opinion, to the Church, cause of some public debate too. I could never hear any symptoms of danger advanced, which were in any degree proportioned to the apprehensions expressed, and when it was asked what remedy, what farther security should be provided, those who expressed their fears,

had

had none to offer, but expected that they who saw no distemper should prescribe a method of cure.

I confess to your Lordship freely, that this appeared new to me, and forced me to make several reflections, which I was unwilling to entertain in my thoughts, and which never shall go farther.

Your Lordship feels, I question not, the effects of these unhappy turns, we feel them with a witness here, and our domestic affairs are not alone distracted by them, but they operate abroad too, and the want of peace in Britain is, for ought I know, the chief obstruction to the general peace of Europe at this time.

I should, perhaps, ask your Lordship's pardon for troubling you with this melancholy account, but you are not to be frightened, or even discomposed by danger; and I am sure, the appearance of it to your country, in any shape, will only serve to animate you the more in the same good cause, which you have, to your lasting honour, hitherto so steadily pursued.

Though your Lordship's letter, and that which my Lord Duke of Shrewsbury writ

to me, in favour of my Lord Blaney, came to my hands before I had heard any other way of the vacancy in Mr. Kellum's regiment, and though I spoke to the Queen, on the very first opportunity, yet her Majesty had been applied to by my Lord Ferrers, in behalf of his son, who is, I suppose, in Ireland, and had promised to order me to write to Ireland in his behalf. This, I should have done some time since, but having mislaid the minute, by some accident or other, till this post, I forgot to mention it to my Lord Lieutenant.

The other persons whom your Lordship has been pleased to recommend to me, are sure of my best services. I wish for their sakes, that my power was equal to the inclination I have to obey your orders successfully, and to approve myself, by all possible ways, my Lord, &c.

BOLINGBROKE,

To Mr. Laws.

Whitehall, May 24th, 1714.

THIS comes only to acknowledge, with thanks, the trouble which you have taken

on my recommendation of Mr. Plat and Mr. Brown to you.

As to the former, I employed him once, and he did not succeed, yet having no reason to complain of his conduct, I was desirous to procure him some establishment, which is now by your favour compassed, and the man is off my hands.

As to the other, I have observed a good deal of affection and zeal for the interest of his country, and am told, that during the whole course of the war, he has been particularly serviceable in giving intelligence to the Admiralty. These considerations moved me to recommend to you, the making some provision for him, and will, I dare say, prevail with you to serve him in the best manner you can.

I desire you to be persuaded, that I am sensible of the regard you have shown to my request, and that as I have been, so I will continue to be, Sir, your faithful humble servant,

BOLINGBROKE.

From

From Mr. Prior.

Paris, June 2d-13th, 1714.

I HAVE little to add to my public dispatch, but that I daily expect a word in private from you.

This insurrection at Lyons is very near the Cevennes; and you will judge what ill effects it must have in regard to the Protestants, as the tumult at Dublin will (these people think) have in regard to the Papists. "Will you protect sedition?—will you countenance murder?" says little Torcy, in great warmth: "those very people whom we have released from the galleys, are, for aught we know, in arms against the King. Are they not the greatest enemies the King has?—are their brethren in England the Queen's friends? *Dites à my Lord Bolingbroke, que c'est eux qui lui couperont le gorge.*" "*Ecrivez-à vous-même, Monsieur de Torcy.*" "*Oui, sur mon honneur, je le ferai, Monsieur Prior.*" Pleasant dialogues these. Adieu, my dear Lord.

There are some points in which I cannot agree with Monsieur Amelot, in the affair of

* Private.

Roccabruna and Menton; if he does not come to, must it lie in compromise fourscore years longer? or *que faire?*

To Don Patricio Lawless.

S I R,

Whitehall, June 21st, 1714.

YOU know enough of the life I lead, during a session of Parliament, to excuse me if I am not exactly punctual in my correspondence. The letter which you sent me from Monsieur Grimaldo has been laid before the Queen, and I transmit to you the original, and a copy of the answer which I writ, by her Majesty's command, to that Minister, that you may please to forward the former to Madrid, and that by perusing the latter you may be fully apprized of the Queen's sentiments. Monsieur Grimaldo having writ to me in Spanish, my answer to him is in English; not so much on account of punctilio, as because I cannot write in the Spanish tongue, and am ignorant whether he understands the French.

I have this day told the French Minister, by the Queen's command, that her Majesty
is

is not a little surprized to find so much weight laid on the point of obliging the Catholic King to depart from a demand, which, after the declarations he had made, his honour was, in some degree, concerned to support, and which her Majesty had likewise, at his and the Most Christian King's request, entered into a guaranty for; and, at the same time, to observe so little concern shown for the finishing a treaty (I mean that between Spain and Portugal) which every man that reflects coolly and impartially on the circumstances of affairs, as they stood when the King of Portugal departed from his pretensions of a barrier, and thereby put it into the Queen's power to act in the manner she did, the benefit whereof redounded to Spain in an eminent degree, must think the Catholic King's honour and justice concerned to finish, as well as the Queen's.

My Lord Bingley has been dispatched some time by me, his equipage is, I hear, on board, and I suppose his journey will not be much longer retarded: in the mean while, I could heartily wish that you was there, since for want of a just idea of the state of affairs

on

on this side of the world, and particularly for want of having the dark perplexed state of our proceedings in this kingdom, clearly accounted for to them, it is very possible your Minister at Madrid, may take wrong measures, and insensibly contribute to that scheme of reviving old quarrels, and running into new confusion, which the Emperor openly pursues, and which the Dutch have indirectly too much encouraged.

I hope the Queen's letter to the Catholic King, will in a day or two be finished; I have not failed to put her Majesty in mind of it, and the moment it is ready, I will transmit it to you.

For the reasons I have touched above, and for many others, the Marquis de Monteleon's journey hither, ought to be quickened.

The open trade, which the French continue to carry on to the Spanish West-Indies, as well in the North as the South Seas, begins to make very great noise; and, although this practice may be magnified in some instances, yet we certainly know, that there is but too much foundation for complaint, according to those particulars which
you

you see I mention in my letter to Monsieur Grimaldo, and according to others which I have not there touched upon.

Since the writing thus far, I have received your letter of the 26th of June, by which you acquaint me of your departure from Holland: Mr. Prior will take care to deliver this to you, if it comes in time to Paris, otherwise he will put it into the hands of the Spanish Secretary, to forward it to Madrid.

If the negociation with Portugal is to be transferred to the frontier of that country, I wish that climate may inspire more peaceable dispositions than have appeared at Utrecht; indeed, Sir, the manner in which the Queen has all along proceeded with the Catholic King, deserves at least that he should, in consideration of her, not suffer a peace, which her honour is concerned to see concluded, to be any longer kept open.

Mr. Worsley, the Queen's Envoy at Lisbon, in his letter of the 12th of June, acquaints me with what the Marquis de Bay, had writ to Don Diego de Mendoça, and with the King of Portugal's resolution thereupon. It is very natural for this Prince
to

to resolve not to conclude his peace, but under the Queen's mediation, and with her guaranty; and I should think, that the Catholic King has had no reason, from the part the Queen has acted, to prefer any mediation to her's, or to refuse those facilities, which she asks of him, to put an end to a treaty which has lain so long, I may say unjustifiably, open.

I shall certainly write to you, in a post or two at farthest, and I hope then, without fail, to send you the Queen's letter to the King. I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

From Mr. Prior.*

MY LORD,

Paris, July 4th, 1714.

THE Chancellor Pontchartrain, gave up the Seals on Monday, resolving to retire, and dedicate the remainder of his life to his devotion and his friends; and yesterday the King gave the Seals to Monsieur Voisin: the place of Secretary of War is not yet disposed of.

* Private.

I have

I have no immediate commands from your Lordship, and I write, according to the Earl of Arlington's rule, only to tell you I have nothing to write. I am, ever, &c.

M. PRIOR.

*To Don Patricio Lawless *.*

S I R,

Whitehall, July 5th, 1714.

THE inclosed copy of my letter to Monsieur de Grimaldo, will acquaint you with what I have writ, by her Majesty's command, to that Minister, concerning the complaints of our merchants, about the hard usage they meet with in their commerce in Spain. I assure myself, that the matter will appear to you so just and reasonable, that you will back it with your instances and endeavours to obtain a speedy as well as a favourable order in it, from the Court of Madrid.

Our Session of Parliament is now drawing very near its conclusion. This business, I must tell you, has been moved, and makes a great noise; and if it is not immediately

* For the Minister of Spain.

remedied

remedied, it may create much disorder among us, weaken the hands of our friends, and be the ground of misunderstanding between the two Courts.

I need add no more to induce you to exert your utmost to remove this stumbling-block out of our way. I shall in a post or two write to you more fully, and by that opportunity I hope not to fail of sending you the Queen's letter to the King of Spain. I am, Sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

BOLINGBROKE.

To Mr. Prior.

S I R,

Whitehall, July 9th, 1714.

I AM so sensible of the uneasiness you must be under, to live without any news from this enchanted island, and to be so long deprived of the assistance of so able a Minister as Barton, that the moment the prorogation is over, I set pen to paper.

These four or five months last past have afforded such a scene as I hope never again to be an actor in. All the confusion which could be created by the disunion of friends,

and the malice of enemies, has subsisted at Court and in Parliament. Little or no public business has been transacted in domestic affairs; and as to you and your Continent, we have not once cast an eye towards you. We never could so justly be styled *divisos orbe Britannos*.

The Councils and Committees will begin now to sit with some regularity again, and you may, by the two posts of next week, expect to hear from me on several affairs which are depending, and which require dispatch, as well as to receive some better account of your own destination. I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

My service, if you please, to all our friends.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

July 14th, 1714.

I WAS beginning to write, when your's of the 20th, N.S. came to my hands.

You will not wonder at my complaints of want of time, when I tell you, that for several weeks before the Session of Parliament rose,

rose, there were new plots, day after day, concerting against me ; and that those, in the service of whom I have drudged these fifteen years, were the proposers of new confederacies, the cement of which was to be my ruin. This, my Lord, is the treatment I have met with, and the only crime, by which the malice that acted these things can pretend to say, I ever deserved them, is this, when the Queen's affairs were come by flow, but long observed steps, into the utmost confusion ; when the party which was at our feet, had been nursed up and rendered formidable ; when the party that only could support us, was under the utmost dissatisfaction, some of them taking part against us, others cool and indifferent spectators ; in a word, when every man, who looked on, agreed that we could not carry the business of the Session round, then I presumed, among others, to beg of one man *, as a friend, that he would alter his conduct, and to represent to the Queen, as a faithful servant, that her government was at the brink of destruction.

I do not wonder at what you write con-

* Lord Oxford.

cerning Van Hulst. The same person who employed him formerly, employs him, I suppose, now, and the language he holds in Holland, is the same, as the same person's emissaries and new friends, the Whigs, hold here; such insinuations as these, have been made to the Lords, and they run into a long examination, expecting to discover mighty things, at last they found nothing, but what made them ashamed of their proceedings *.

As

* This probably relates to the following circumstance :

Some time before the meeting of Parliament, a forged letter, said to have been written by the Duke of Lorain to her Majesty, had been circulated; in which the Duke, after bestowing high encomiums on the Pretender, declines a compliance with her Majesty's wishes, to send him out of the territories of Lorain. This encouraged the Whig Lords to move an Address to her Majesty, for the letters which had passed between the Bishop of London and the Baron le Begue, Envoy of Lorain. Upon which the following letters were produced, and the expectations of the party fell to the ground.

L'Evêque de Bristol au Baron le Begue.

“ MONSIEUR,

“ A Utrecht, ce 8me Novembre, 1713.

“ J'EMBRASSERAI toujours avec plaisir les occasions qui se présenteront, pour vous témoigner mes respects, & pour vous assurer du réciproque de l'amitié que vous m'avez témoignée, pendant votre séjour à Utrecht. Je le fais maintenant, par ordre de sa Majesté la Reine de la Grande Bretagne, que j'ai l'honneur de servir, d'autant que sa Majesté trouvant que le Prétendant à sa Couronne n'est pas encore sorti du territoire de son Altesse, le Duc, votre maître, nonobstant les instances réitérées qui ont été faites à cette fin, elle m'a commandé de vous prier de vouloir bien représenter à son Altesse les dangers qu'il y pourroit avoir à appréhender pour sa Majesté, & pour ses royaumes, comme aussi pour la succession Protestante,

en

As to your Lordship's letters to me, they all remain among my private papers, and
neither

en cas que la dite personne continuoit à demeurer plus long-tems dans ses états, & combien peu un telle protection s'accorderoit avec l'amitié & la bonne correspondance qui subsiste entre sa Majesté & son Altesse. Quand j'aurai l'honneur de vous rejoindre quelque part, je vous pourrois expliquer ces matières plus au long, & vous faire souvenir des adresses dernièrement faites à sa Majesté par son Parlement, comme aussi d'autres considérations, lesquelles, je me persuade, vous sont néanmoins assez connues, pour qu'étant représentées à son Altesse par un Ministre aussi accrédité & bien-intentionné que l'est Monsieur le Baron de Begue, elles ne manquent point d'avoir tout effet qu'on en souhaite & demande, c'est à dire, qu'il ne soit permis au dit Prétendant de demeurer plus long-tems dans les états du Duc, votre maître. Je suis, &c.

" JOHN BRISTOL."

" *Le Baron le Begue à l'Evêque de Bristol.*

" MY LORD,

" A la Haye, le 9me Novembre, 1713.

" J'AI reçu ce matin la lettre, que votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'écrire, le 8me du courant, que j'enverrai demain à son Altesse Royale, & dès que je saurai ses intentions, je ne manquerai point de vous en rendre compte; vous priant cependant, my Lord, de vous souvenir, que dans le tems, que le Chevalier de St. George vint faire sa résidence à Bar, j'eus ordre de vous dire, que son Altesse Royale mon maître n'auroit donné azile à ce Prince, que sur les vives instances, qui lui en avoient été faites par la Cour de France, qui même engagea son Altesse Royale de solliciter des passeports tant à la Cour Impériale, qu'auprès de Messieurs les Etats-Généraux des Provinces Unies des Pays-Bas, pour la sûreté du dit Chevalier; présentment, my Lord, je ne fais point si ces instances, dont vous me parlez, ont été réitérées, ni si mon maître est en liberté de faire sortir de ses états un Prince, qui n'y a été reçu qu'à la sollicitation du Roi Très Chrétien. C'est, my Lord, ce que je soumetts à la prudence de votre Excellence, dont j'ai l'honneur d'être, avec tout le respect possible, my Lord, &c.

O o 3

" T. LE BEGUE."

Copie

neither Van Hulst, nor any other person, can possibly arrive at the sight of them. Nothing is more sacred with me, than the rules of friendship, and I should look on myself as the last of men, if your private correspondence had passed into any hands but my own, by my fault. I value myself as I am your relation and your friend, and I will answer both these characters, as a man of honour ought to do in every instance, and in every circumstance of life. I never spoke to

Copie de la lettre de son Altesse Royale de Lorraine, au Baron le Begue, son Ministre à la Haye, en date du 17^{me} Novembre, 1713.

“ J’AI reçu, Monsieur, ce matin votre lettre, en date du 11^{me} du courant, à laquelle étoit jointe celle que Monsieur l’Evêque de Bristol vous a écrite d’Utrecht, le 8^{me} de ce mois, avec copie de la réponse que vous lui avez faite, que j’ai approuvé. J’avoue que j’ai été surpris de voir la demande que vous fait Monsieur l’Evêque de Bristol, de la part de la Reine de la Grande Bretagne, & mon intention est que vous répondiez à ce Ministre, que n’ayant rien plus à cœur que de me conserver les grâces & bontés de la Reine, je n’omettrai aucune occasion de les mériter, mais qu’à l’égard de la demande que l’on me fait de faire sortir de mes états Monsieur le Chevalier de St. George, je ne pouvois répondre autre chose, si non que du su & de l’aveu de toute l’Europe, il étoit venu demeurer dans mes états, lesquels étant un pays neutre, tout le monde pouvoit y venir demeurer; que l’Empereur même lui avoit donné un passeport pour y venir & y rester, avec cette restriction néanmoins, de n’en devoir point sortir, & que là-dessus je n’avois pas d’autre réponse à faire, espérant que mes raisons étant trouvées bonnes, Monsieur l’Evêque de Bristol voudra bien me continuer son amitié, & me conserver, par ses bon offices auprès de la Reine, l’honneur de sa protection, qui est tout ce que je souhaite le plus ardemment. C’est ce que vous aurez en réponse de le vôtre.

“ LEOPOLD.”

Van

Van Hulst five times in my life, and I dare say, it is not less than two years since I have been in a room with him.

Lord Marlborough's people gave out that he is coming over, and I take it for granted that he is so * ; whether on account of the ill figure he makes abroad, or the good one he hopes to make at home, I shall not determine, but I have reason to think, that some people †, who would rather move heaven and earth, than either part with their power, or make a right use of it, have lately made overtures to him, and have entered into some degree of concert with his creatures.

My dear Lord, the Queen's affairs are in a deplorable state, by that glorious management, with which, it seems, no man must presume to find fault; we are fallen into contempt abroad, into confusion at home; with a vast majority of the nation on our side, we are insulted by the minority; and with the merit of having made a good and popular peace, we are reproached by those who lie under the guilt of attempting to prolong a ruinous war. It is a great while

* He landed at Dover, 1st August.

† Meaning Oxford.

since I have thought that this could never be, was not our leader in a secret with our enemy ; and, I believe, that there is hardly a Whig or Tory in Britain, that is not of the same opinion.

What the Queen will do to extricate herself from these difficulties and she alone can save herself, I do not know. This I know, that there is no danger, no labour I decline to serve her, except one, which is, that of trusting the same conduct a fifth year, which has deceived herself these four years.

Go on as you do, and hug yourself, my dear Lord, that you are at a distance from these scenes of folly and knavery ; a few days will decide of a great deal, as soon as I am certain, you shall be so too.

Adieu, my Lord, ever, from the bottom of my heart, your faithful and affectionate friend, kinsman, and servant.

From Mr. Prior.*

Paris, July 13-24th, 1714.

THOUGH I have troubled you, my Lord, with a long letter, I cannot forbear adding

* Private.

one

one word to you, to thank you for sending me Barton the Wife, who is the best interpreter, in the world, of confusion and disorder ; for he does not speak one sentence out, stops short, knows nothing, and concludes, almost before he has begun, with Lord have mercy upon England ! In his style, I can go on with my best wishes and hopes, that every thing is, and will be to your satisfaction ; and as I will give your sincere service to all friends here, I am persuaded that you think no man is more of that number, than your own

M. PRIOR.

Duc de Noailles, d'Aumont, and our quality, Richmond, Annandale, and Selkirk, are to dine with me to-morrow, with friend Southwell : do you think we shall drink Lord Bolingbroke's health ? Adieu, my Lord, I am ever your's.

To the Lord Primate of Ireland.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, July 27th, 1714.

I RECEIVE those marks of your confidence and good opinion, which you give me
in

in your letter of the 17th, with all possible sense of gratitude. The best return which I can make, and this I beg your Grace to be persuaded firmly, that I will make, is to maintain a sincere and unreserved correspondence with you, and to improve, as far as I am able, all the information and instruction, which your Grace shall, from time to time, be pleased to give me, to the advantage of the Church of England and Ireland.

Men of the characters, which your Grace describes, shall never have any share of my assistance to advance them in the world; nor especially to promote them to those stations in the hierarchy, where every one of their private vices must become a national calamity. What persons the Queen has pitched upon, to fill the vacant Bishoprics in Ireland, or whether she has absolutely determined a list, I really do not know. When I represented to her Majesty, at Windsor, the great advantage, which would accrue to the Church and State, by your Grace's promotion, I think she spoke as if she had resolved on the others.

Since that time, the affairs of our Court have been in all that confusion, which your Grace

cannot be ignorant of, and which has in a manner suspended all business, except the debates of Parliament, and the intrigues of party. My own situation has been particularly nice, the utmost I could do, has been little enough to ward the stabs which were levelled at me, and to discover the mines which were daily wrought under my feet; and I have therefore been forced to abate that activity, or forwardness in the service, and by which, I hope to atone for a multitude of imperfections whereof I am conscious.

I am hopeful, that the Queen will establish her government on the only foundation which ought to last. In this case, I shall perhaps be able to influence the nominations to the Irish Sees, to your Grace's satisfaction, and therefore humbly desire you to trust me so far, as to communicate freely to me your sentiments in each particular instance. I will be sure to use all the discretion, and observe all the secrecy, which your Grace shall think proper to enjoin.

It will not, I imagine, be difficult to keep off the dispatch of this affair, till I hear from you. My Lord Anglesey is set out from home, and
your

your Grace will soon have the satisfaction of seeing him in Ireland; you will find his Lordship not a little discomposed with the turn, which the Dublin dispute has taken here, my heart has gone along with his in this whole affair, and the utmost I could do, I have done. But, indeed, the conjuncture was fatal; when those who are at the head of government are in distraction, and their influence is either not employed at all, or differently applied, subordinate ministers will take the liberty of acting as their passions drive them, or their interest entices them, and this I take to have been the case. I cannot persuade myself that a scheme was laid to give up the cause of our friends, but all that some people might have done, and would have done at another time, was not perhaps done at this. I know but one way of retrieving these disadvantages, and of preventing those misfortunes, which every reasonable man sees before him, and which every honest man dreads; and that is to take hold of the present disposition, which there seems to be, to act a clear game with the Tories, and on that foundation to establish the Queen's Government. Could all our friends be brought, with union and with spirit, to encourage

3

courage

courage her Majesty to pursue this measure, and to support her in it, I should soon grow very sanguine. At present I do not absolutely despond, nor yet flatter myself; as long as there is any appearance of advancing the cause, which I profess myself to have at heart, I am willing to continue in the laborious, unthankful, dangerous office. Whenever, either through the fault of the Court, or of the party, this prospect is removed, I shall have nothing left to do, but in private to bemoan the calamity of my country.

Your goodness, my Lord, has encouraged me to trespass on your patience; the high veneration which I have for your Grace's character makes me desirous to have my conduct approved by you, and to this laudable desire, I beseech your Grace to attribute what I have said of myself in this letter; had I not this excuse, the charge of impertinence would lie heavy upon me.

I am, my Lord, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To Colonel Kane.*

SIR,

Whitehall, July 27th, 1714.

I KNOW too well your zeal for the Queen's honour and service, to imagine you would suffer any thing to pass where you command, inconsistent with either; when I mentioned the notice which had been taken of the Emperor's picture hanging in the Town House, and of some appearance of his authority subsisting in the island, I was far from imagining you to blame; but the reason why I wrote to you on the subject, was purely to give you an opportunity of furnishing me, as you have now done, with answers to such as might complain.

La Blotiere will give you no farther trouble, I am sorry he has given you so much. You are at liberty, as you will have seen, by a letter I wrote to you some days ago, to oblige him to depart from the island. I will be sure to set it right with Lord Peterborough, whom we expect every day after Colonel Phillips's journey hither. I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

* Commanding at Minorca.

P.S. I

P.S. I thought once to have sent these dispatches, by a messenger on purpose, but that might have occasioned speculation, and I hope they will go safe by flying packet.

To the Lords Justices of Ireland.*

MY LORDS,

Whitehall, July 28th, 1714.

I HAVE the honour of your Excellencies' letter of the 17th, and shall make the best use I am able of the several informations which you are pleased to give me.

The removal of the Earl of Oxford from the post of Lord High Treasurer, the constitution of a commission of the Treasury, and several other incidents, which attend such a change, have for a few days interrupted the regular course of business. I hope we shall soon settle into order, and carry on the service, with more vigour and dispatch, than has been usual; and then one of the first cares must be to secure the peace of Ireland.

In the mean while, her Majesty persuades herself, that your Excellencies will leave no-

* The Archbishops of Armagh and Tuam, and the Lord Chancellor.

thing undone, to prevent such disorders, as the ferment, at this time raised, gives too much reason to apprehend.

One would imagine that the vigilancy used in discovering, and the severity used in prosecuting such as were listed, or as listed others for the Pretender, might be sufficient to calm the minds of men, by showing them they are safe, through the care and under the protection of the Government.

The person your Excellencies mention to me, I had notice of before: Mr. Secretary Bromley has likewise received several informations concerning him, and I believe will stop him, and seize his papers. I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

A Monsieur de Tercy.

MONSIEUR,

De Whitehall, ce 29me Juillet, 1714.

QUOIQUE je viens d'écrire fort ample-
ment à Messieurs d'Iberville & Prior, la Reine
a voulu que je me servisse du même courier
pour vous communiquer la surprise & le
chagrin, que lui causent les bruits qui cour-
rent

rent ici depuis quelque tems. On prétend que le Roi Catholique ne veut plus se tenir aux renonciations qu'il a fait, ni aux engagements qui ont été pris pour la empêcher réunion des deux monarchies. On prétend que le Cardinal di Guidice traite actuellement cette affaire à la Cour de France ; & on ajoute, ce que je ne croirai jamais, qu'il a obtenu des actes & des déclarations contraires à tout ce qui a été réglé dans les traités d'Utrecht à cet égard. Ces discours font d'autant plus d'impreflion, qu'ils se trouvent confirmés par des avis qui sont venus à la Reine. Je ne vous dirai pas, Monsieur, qu'après une entreprise de cette nature, les stipulations les plus solennelles deviendront à l'avenir de nul poids.

Je ne veux non plus entrer dans un détail des suites funestes de l'infraction d'un article, qui sert de base & de fondement à la paix. Ce feroit supposer, en quelque façon, que les bruits & les avis dont je viens de parler soient fondés. Je me bornerai, Monsieur, à vous représenter la nécessité qu'il y a de mettre les esprits en repos, sur un point de cette importance. La paix n'est pas encore générale, & il n'y a rien qui puisse tant con-

tribuer à rendre difficiles les traités qui restent à faire, que de voir déjà des contraventions à ceux qui ont été faits.

Je me flatte, Monsieur, de recevoir dans peu votre réponse, & d'être par-là en état de donner à la Reine une satisfaction entière.

Je suis, &c.

B.

From Mr. Prior.*

MY DEAR LORD,

Paris, August 7th, 1714.

I SHOULD be wanting in my duty and friendship to you, if I were silent upon a point, which for me of all men, it is most dangerous to touch; you will easily guess, it is the differences, and, as they are represented here, the open quarrels, between my masters at Whitehall. Who is in the wrong, or who is in the right, is not in my power at this distance to determine; but this thing every one sees at this Court, from Torcy to Courtenvaux, as I believe they do in yours, from my Lord Chancellor to Miramont, that the honour of our nation daily diminishes, and the credit of the Ministers most

* Private.

particularly

particularly suffers. I would expatiate upon this topic, if I did not write to a man of your superior sense, and I need make no excuse for touching upon it, because, I am sure, I write to a man who loves me, and knows I love him. I have one reason to wish an end of these misunderstandings, more than any man else, which is, that I foresee my own ruin inevitably fixed in their continuance: but be all that as it will, my Lord Bolingbroke shall never be ashamed of my conduct, or find me behave otherwise than as an honest and an English man.

Am I to go to Fontainbleau? am I to come home? am I to be looked upon? am I to hang myself? From the present prospect of things, the latter begins to look most eligible. Adieu, my Lord, God bless you! I am ever, inviolably your's,

MATT.

Monfieur de Torcy has very severe, and, I fear, very exact accounts of us: we are all frightened out of our wits, upon the Duke of Marlborough's going into England.

*From Mr. Prior *.*

Paris, (without date) 1714.

TO say the truth, my dear Lord Bolingbroke, Monsieur de Torcy thinks us all mad. He asked me many questions which (for the best reason in the world) I did not answer; as for instance, how we can oblige a man to go from one place, when we forbid all others to receive him? In case the Chevalier should go from Lorain, would you, three months hence, desire this Court to write another letter to the Principality where he may then be, to turn out from thence; and when, at this rate, must either you or Monsieur de Torcy have done writing?

Our ill-wishers' low discourses here of the prevalence of the Whigs, the fears of the Ministry, who dare not disoblige them, we have a thousand insinuations of 2210, 418, 892, 751, the 1758, 372, 1216, 892, &c. which, considering the state of my affairs, must be very delicious to your friend Matthew. Adieu, my Lord, I hear more from the Secretary of State, than from Henry.

* Private.

To

To the Lord Justices of Ireland.

MY LORDS,

Kensington, July 31st, 1714.

I HAVE just time to tell you, that the Queen draws apace to her latter end. All possible care has been taken to put the kingdom into a condition of passing quietly under that government which the law has established. I can add no more, but to recommend myself to your Excellency's friendship, and to assure you, that I am, and always will be, with great respect and truth, my Lords, &c.

B.

Au Roi.

SIRE,

De Whitehall, ce 3me Août, 1714.

QUOIQUE je crains d'être importun, je ne saurois me dispenser plus long-tems, & de suivre mon inclination, & de m'acquitter de mon devoir.

Je prends donc la liberté, au milieu des acclamations de votre peuple, de témoigner à votre Majesté, la joie que je ressens d'être devenu le sujet d'un aussi grand Prince.

P p 3

C'est

C'est ce même esprit qui agit généralement tout le monde ; & les factions qui ont accoutumées d'agiter ce gouvernement, paroissent être cessées. Dieu veuille que la sagesse & la fermeté de votre Majesté les puissent empêcher de renaître.

Quant à moi, j'ose supplier votre Majesté d'être persuadée, que les mêmes principes d'honneur & de conscience, qui m'aient porté à servir la feue Reine jusques à sa mort, avec constance & avec fidélité, m'attacheront inviolablement à elle, & que soit à la Cour, soit au Parlement, soit dans ma province, je tâcherai en tout, & par tout, de mériter le titre de, Sire, de votre Majesté,

Le très humble, très fidelle,

Et très obeissant serviteur,

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Earl of Strafford.

August 13th, 1713.

I THANK you a thousand times, my dear Lord, for your kind letter ; indeed, the Queen's death was a very great surprize ; for though I did not imagine she could hold
out

out long, yet I hoped she would have got over the summer.

Such little fellows as you mention, who want virtue enough to take the laudable ways of raising themselves in the world, and have, therefore, recourse to all the vile arts of sycophants and parasites, may talk of plots in favour of the Pretender, but sure there never was yet so quiet a transition from one government to another, as the present is likely to be, nay, as the present already is, for we are at this moment in as perfect tranquillity as ever. I hope, for the King's sake, and for our country's sake, that the violent measures of those, who will not be found able to support them when they have advised them, will not be pursued; indeed there is not, from his Majesty's character of prudence and caution, reason to suspect that they will: the nation never was in a better temper, it would be a pity not to improve such a disposition.

For my own part, I doubt not but I have been painted in fine colours to the King; I must trust to my conduct to clear me: I served the Queen to the last gasp as faithfully, as disinterestedly, as zealously, as if

her life had been good for twenty years, and she had had twenty children to succeed her; I do not repent doing so, nor envy those who did otherwise: on the same principle, will I serve the King, if he employs me; and if he does not, I will discharge my duty honestly and contentedly in the country, and in the House of Peers.

I am surprized at what you write about Dorset, I thought he had better sense. Adieu, my dear Lord, I depend on your friendship, which I will always endeavour to deserve.

Craggs arrived to-day; by his account, we expect in ten days or a fortnight to see the King. Berkley, with the fleet, is, I believe, failed, or failing. Once more, my good kinsman and fellow-labourer, adieu.

I am your's, as long as I am

BOLINGBROKE.

The messenger who brings you this, goes on to the King with a letter, which the Lords Justices ordered me to write.

A Mon-

A Monsieur de Torcy.

De Whitehall, ce 19me Août, 1714.

APRES un coup aussi rude * que celui que je viens d'essuyer, la plus grande consolation que je pouvois espérer étoit la continuation de votre amitié, dont vous avez bien voulu, Monsieur, m'assurer, par la lettre que vous avez pris la peine de m'écrire.

Je tâcherai de la mériter dans quelque situation que je me trouve, & de subir mon sort, tel qu'il puisse être, d'une manière à ne vous faire pas rétracter la bonne opinion que vous avez conçue de moi.

Je suis, & je ferai toute ma vie, avec un attachement inviolable, Monsieur, votre, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

* Upon the demise of the Queen, it soon appeared that the majority of the Lords Regent favoured the other party, and Bolingbroke underwent some instances of personal insult, which could do him no dishonour, but might have taught him to expect the little mercy that was soon afterwards shown to him and his colleagues.

TRANSLATION

OF

FOREIGN LETTERS AND PAPERS, &c.

MEMORIAL. (Page 5.)

WE the undersigned Ministers Plenipotentiary of his Most Christian Majesty, do declare, at the request of the Ministers of her Britannic Majesty, who do not wish to retard the conclusion of the urgent business now on hand, that if one of the instruments of the treaties made and signed at Breda, between France and Great Britain, but not in French; we will provide another in Latin, prior to the ratification of the agreement. Done this day at Utrecht, March 14th, 1713.

To the Marquis de Montélon. (Page 27.)

SIR,

Wednesday, April 7th, 1713.

THE more I consider the draught of the treaty, lately arrived from Madrid, the more I find it impossible to accede to certain articles in it. Your Excellency can testify, that so far from creating any new obstruction, I am anxious to remove those that now exist. If then even I find it impossible to pass these articles, you may judge of the sentiments of the other Ministers.

The Session of Parliament must open on Thursday next, we have, consequently, no time to lose, for I shall be very sorry to hear the Queen speak of the peace with France as concluded, and the treaty ratified, when, at the same time, she will be forced to say, that the negociation with Spain is still open.

In

In this case it will be impossible to answer for the misfortunes that may happen. To-morrow morning, at ten o'clock precisely, I shall be at my office; Mr. Moore will attend me; perhaps, with your assistance, we may be able to hit upon some expedients to settle the points in dispute. As Mr. Moore does not speak French, I submit to your Excellency whether you would not bring Don Patricio with you. I am, &c.

To the Marquis de Montéleon. (Page 33.)

S I R,

Whitehall, April 11th, 1713.

I DOUBT not you will do me the justice to believe, that I received the agreeable news of the arrival of the fleet from Mexico, with all the pleasure that a man can feel when convinced, as I am, that the good and the bad fortune of Spain are the same to Great Britain.

Your Excellency will suffer me to avail myself of the opportunity to tell you, that it is absolutely necessary we should find some medium upon the article *des fueros* of the Catalans, and upon that of religion in the island of Minorca, and at Gibraltar. In truth, it would be hard to see a negociation, hitherto fortunate, impeded by trifles, for such I call every thing that now delays the conclusion of the peace between the two nations.

In confidence I will tell you, that I have twice talked to the Queen upon those points, and, as I expected, found her very inflexible upon both. She thinks, that if the question was to cede places to her which she had not conquered, and of which she was not really in possession, the gentlemen of the Inquisition might pretend to vote according to the custom of Spain. But at present, we must view this business in another light. If the King of Spain makes a formal surrender of the island of Minorca and Gibraltar to the Queen, the honours, possessions, and privileges, ecclesiastical as well as civil, together with the Catholic religion, shall be preserved to the inhabitants, by an express article. If the King insists upon such terms as will force her Majesty not to accept the above-mentioned cession, there will be nothing stipulated in favour either of the clergy or laity, and the Inquisition will take the trouble to reflect, how far it may be convenient to them, to give

up the interests of their religion, to the discretion of those whom they call Heretics.

The Queen is aware of the attention, which a Catholic King must pay to the representations of the Inquisition, and her Majesty, in return, expects that the King your master will consider the attention which a King or a Queen of Great Britain, ought to pay to the opinion of her Parliament. In one word, I entertained some hope of being able to adjust the article respecting the Catalans, by means of the expedient you and I agreed upon, provided that relating to religion should not be disputed, but that you should be satisfied with the general stipulation in that respect, which is to be found in the minutes sent to Madrid, and more amply detailed in the draught of the treaty drawn up by me in Latin, and perused by us both. I should ask your Excellency's pardon for so long a letter, did I not know the importance of coming to an immediate conclusion, and the impossibility of accommodating differences, which still subsist, in any other manner than that I have just mentioned. I am, &c.

To Monsieur Marschalch. (Page 36.)

S I R,

Whitehall, April 14th, 1713.

WHEN I return you thanks for the honour of your letter of the 18th, N.S. you will allow me to rejoice with you at the happy conclusion of a peace, so much opposed, and so long contested.

The wise conduct of the King your master, who with so much reason, glories in following the steps of his august father, has not a little contributed to the accomplishment of this great work. You may easily imagine the Queen's satisfaction, when his Prussian Majesty concurred in signing the peace, by the displeasure she showed when the late King's forces separated from hers, and the good understanding between our two Courts, suffered an interruption.

I am really unable to promise you any thing on the subject of subsidies; it is certain, that no one is so able as you are to manage the concerns of your master, wherever you may be employed, and particularly at
our

our Court, where you are known, and consequently esteemed. I am, &c.

To Count Passionei. (Page 37.)

S I R,

Whitehall, April 14th, 1713.

I RECEIVED the honour of your two letters, and I beg you to be persuaded, that were my power equal to my inclination to serve you, you would soon have reason to be satisfied.

Upon the first recommendation of the Earl of Strafford, I applied to the Marquis de Montéleon, and found him well disposed. Since that time, I have frequently renewed my solicitations to that minister, and by the messenger who sets off to-morrow for Spain, I will contrive to get him to make a second application to his Court. I am, &c.

To Monsieur Mesnager. (Page 38.)

S I R,

Whitehall, April 14th, 1713.

YOU will not consider me as troublesome, if I do myself the honour of congratulating with you upon the perfection of that great work, of which you laid the foundation.

The good correspondence between our two nations being restored by the peace, let it be our care to augment it, and to give it additional vigour by every means in our power.

Among the pleasures I derive upon sight of the end of this negociation, I have that of having had the opportunity of becoming acquainted with you. I intreat some portion in your remembrance, being assured, that I am, &c.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 39.)

Verfailles, April 17th, 1713.

AS your labours, my Lord, have been successful, and the treaties of peace and commerce are signed, let us forget all our anxieties. In truth, with very sincere and real joy, I congratulate with you. The delay was a severe trial of our patience, but I could never be induced
to

to think, that any project, in which you were concerned, could be in danger of miscarriage, still less could bring my mind to look upon you as an enemy. At last, all inquietude and fear have vanished, and I once more compliment you upon it.

The King writes this day to the Queen, and I send the letter to the Duke d'Aumont; he has also orders, to signify to you, my Lord, his Majesty's sentiments with respect to you, which are not superior to your deserts, nor equal to the idea which I shall ever entertain of them.

The Queen shall be satisfied with regard to the galley-slaves, as I doubt not the King will have reason to be with respect to the *immobilia*. The peace was effected in so amicable a manner, that we cannot suppose its consequences will assume another complexion.

The Duke of Richmond is at liberty to come hither whenever he pleases; but, my Lord, beware how you send over such dangerous personages as the Duchess of Richmond, and her daughter: let us remain true to the English Church, but depend upon it, that ministerial functions and philosophy, are a poor defence against certain modes of seduction.

You would not dispute the truth of this, you who are a minister, and whom I know to be much more a philosopher than I ever was. It is true, you have increased my desire to become one, but I must have a few more lessons from you, and shall certainly profit by them, on account of my wishes to give you pleasure and to prove how much I am, &c.

DE TORCY.

As I imagine the Abbé Gaultier is gone, I desire Matthew to put a letter into his packet.

Note. (Page 40.)

Letter from the Marquis de Torcy, to the Abbé Gaultier, received March 23d, 1713.

March 26th, 1713.

I CAN now inform you of the King's intentions with respect to the galley-slaves. You were not mistaken, in judging his Majesty would be extremely averse to enter upon

upon a treaty on such a subject; but, he is so well inclined to please the Queen, that on this occasion, I have been witness to what I never dared to expect, but before I tell you what the King is willing to do, I must explain to you, that the greater part of those who pretend they are martyrs to the Protestant reformed religion, and who wish the world to believe, that they were brought to the galleys purely on that account, are actually there for having attempted to raise a sedition in the Provinces, for riotous meetings, and for other acts of disobedience to the King's decrees and ordinances. Therefore, it is not their pretended zeal, but their disobedience, that has been the cause of their misfortune, and on such occasions, indulgence might be productive of unexpected consequences. Nevertheless, the King, on her Majesty's account, will liberate those who are confined on account of their religion, presuming, that, according to what you write as from the Lord Treasurer, the Queen will order the 14th article of the treaty respecting the *immobilia*, to be drawn agreeable to the King's desire, and to the treaty of Breda, upon a like occasion. This concession must not appear as a condition of the treaty, as it would be a precedent for demands which other powers might make in favour of the Calvinists, and which his Majesty will not grant, on any account whatever. But on my word pledged to the Lord Treasurer, which I hope he can depend upon, he must dispatch orders to the Duke of Shrewsbury, to declare in form, that the Queen will agree to the *immobilia* article being drawn in compliance with the King's wishes. It is even necessary that the article should be sent to him, ready drawn, or at least that he should be instructed in the clauses he is to accept.

In the mean time he should have orders from the Queen, to demand of his Majesty the liberty of one part of the galley-slaves, for it would be impossible to extend that liberty generally to all; and even those who are released, must immediately depart the kingdom, and pass into foreign countries.

Remember well, above all things, that this liberty which the King will grant them, is not to be a condition in the treaty, but a favour granted in consideration of the Queen of Great Britain.

While she is preparing her orders on this subject for
the

the Duke of Shrewsbury, it will be necessary she should speak to the Duke d'Aumont upon it. You sent back la Vigne without informing him, and I am certain he will be offended, and have reason to be so, and to imagine you wished to negotiate without him. As you have probably taken measures to extricate yourself from this difficulty, and as they must not be opposed, I shall order la Vigne not to enter London as a messenger, but to find you out without showing himself to the domestics of the Duke d'Aumont. I do not even write to him by this opportunity. I intend in three or four days, to send back one of his messengers, who arrived this morning, with the unpleasant news of the prorogation of Parliament. These delays occasion much unpleasant conversation, but what hurts me still more, is the slowness of the British Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht, and the difficulties they continue to make in the articles already settled, among others, that which contains the cession of the Upper Palatinate, and the first rank in the Electoral College, to the Elector of Bavaria, after the death of the Elector Palatine, and of Prince Charles, an article which I settled at Fontainebleau with my Lord Bolingbroke, and of which he left with me a written copy.

In truth, my Lord Treasurer must not suffer these delays any longer, after all the King has done to promote the peace.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 42.)

Verfailles, April 17th, 1713.

I RECEIVED, Sir, by Baron de Walef, the honour of your letter of the 16th December, O.S. Your recommendation of him, Sir, was sufficient for me to serve him in every way I possibly can; but, you have contributed to disappoint him, in the line in which you wished to serve him, by your profitable exertions for the conclusion of the peace.

The King intends to disband his forces, rather than to augment them, and consequently, it is impossible to take Baron de Walef into his Majesty's service, notwithstanding your testimony in his favour. I have done my utmost to induce the Elector of Bavaria to take him into his, but his arrangements will not allow of it. If I have not been successful, Sir, I beg you to believe, that

it was not from want of inclination to please you, and to show how much I am, &c.

DE TORCY.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 44).

SIR,

Whitehall, April 15th, 1713.

I HAVE already forgotten all my anxieties, which would have been much greater, had I not, during the course of the negociation, been protected by your integrity, and instructed by your wisdom.

But I shall never forget the pleasure and advantage for which I am indebted to the delays and difficulties in our great work, the pleasure of having seen you, and the advantage of copying your example. From the bottom of my heart I give you joy upon the success of the treaty, and I doubt not, your Whigs have now recovered from their prejudices; as to ours, they are incurable.

The Duc d'Aumont has imparted to me the honour the King has been willing to heap upon me, by condescending to regard, in a favourable light, the services I have endeavoured to do. Dare I, Sir, assure his Majesty of my most grateful acknowledgement, and of the profound respect which will ever devote me to his service?

As the Queen's Ambassadors at the Congress, have not, for some time, written any thing regarding the interest of the Duc de St. Pierre, I write to them again, upon that subject, by her Majesty's order. I exhort them to use their utmost zeal, and to employ their best abilities on this occasion; and I give them to understand, that they must expect the Queen will be greatly dissatisfied with their conduct, if, upon any pretence whatever, they act otherwise.

The Duke of Richmond is preparing to depart; but the Duchess and her daughter will remain here, since you dread their seductions. In France, beauty may be dangerous; but in a climate so dull, and among a people so phlegmatic as ours, it is necessary.

I never plumed myself on being much a philosopher; but I own I am tempted to entertain some opinion of myself, when I reflect upon the friendship with which you honour me, upon the perfect esteem I feel for your
merit

merit, and upon the inviolable attachment with which I am, &c.

B.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 46).

April 18th, 1713.

AS the Abbé Gaultier is not yet gone, I give him a second letter, to thank you, Sir, for the attention you paid to the Duke of Shrewsbury's representations, on the subject of the declaration he demanded, as to the exceptions contained in the 9th article of the treaty of commerce. This is an additional proof of the good faith which has prevailed throughout the negociation, and which is too well established not to subsist after the peace.

With much pleasure, I heard of the new favour the King has conferred upon the Abbé Gaultier. Indeed, Sir, his conduct has deserved this distinction. No one can serve a master with more zeal than he has done, and I dare assert, that the knowledge he has of this country, as well as the trust reposed in him, by those in office, will enable him to be very useful upon all occasions, in which it may be necessary for the King's service, to treat with us.

The Marquis de Montéleon is preparing for his departure to Holland. I believe he is satisfied with us, as he has experienced much compliance in essential matters. I own to you, Sir, we have not experienced the same, in certain points, which are of no consequence to the Catholic King, but which are of importance to the Queen; having a reference to the engagements she is under, to the occurrences of the times, and the constitution of our government.

I am much deceived if the Marquis de Montéleon is not of my opinion upon this subject. I am, &c.

B.

Note. (Page 49).

Proposition made by the French Plenipotentiaries, at Utrecht.

THE states and places, in Italy, which do not depend either upon the kingdom of Naples, or the duchy of Milan, shall be restored to their lawful owners.

Q q 2

With

With the Marquis de Torcy.

April 5th-16th, 1713.

THE points respecting Mantua, Mirandola, Castiglione, Comachio, &c. must not retard the conclusion of the peace between the House of Austria and France; but, after signing the treaty, a city in Italy shall be fixed upon, where the Plenipotentiaries, who, on this account shall be named, as well on the part of his Imperial Majesty, as on those of the other parties interested, shall meet, to discuss and ascertain what may belong to each.—The four places on the coast of Tuscany are adjudged to belong to the House of Austria.

Note. (Page 52).

Restrictions necessary to be enacted, upon granting the tariff of 1664 to the Dutch.

1. WHALEBONE, cut and prepared, blubber, and whale-oil, shall pay, at all the ports in the kingdom, the duties mentioned in the tariff of December 7th, 1699.
2. Cloths, ratines, and serges, shall be liable to the same duties as in the tariff of December 7th, 1699; and, to accomodate the trade, they shall be suffered to be imported at St. Valery sur Somme, Rouen, and Bourdeaux *; where these stuffs shall be liable to be searched, in the same manner as those manufactured in the kingdom.
3. The Dutch shall only import salt fish, in barrels; and at all the ports in the kingdom, even in the free ports, it shall pay the duties of entry and consumption, ordered before the tariff of 1664; and, besides, forty livres per last, consisting of twelve barrels, weighing 300 pounds each, for the entrance duty; which entry shall only be permitted at St. Valery sur Somme, Rouen, Nantz, Le-bourne, and Bourdeaux; and shall be forbidden at all other ports, as well in the ocean as in the Mediterranean.
4. Sugar, refined, in loaf, or in powder, candied, white, and brown, shall pay the duties enacted by the tariff of December 7th, 1699.

* The entry of these merchandise was only permitted at Calais, and St. Valery sur Somme.

To the Marchioness de Croissy. (Page 71).

Whitehall, April 19th, 1713.

I AM delighted to learn, Madam, that you are satisfied with the watch which I had the honour to send you, by Monsieur de Verrou. There is nothing I search for with more eagerness, than the opportunity of pleasing you. Every one's use in this world is in proportion to his ability; and some degree of merit may be claimed even in trifles. I hope, Madam, you are convinced I have endeavoured at some merit in an affair of importance, I mean that of the Duc de St. Pierre. The Queen's orders, on that subject, were repeated to her Plenipotentiaries, a few days ago, in the strongest and most positive terms. I am willing to hope the effect will answer the means employed. You may be certain, that, on my part, I will neglect nothing that may contribute to the success of the pretensions of those who have the honour to belong to you, being, &c.

To the Bishop of Montpellier. (Page 72).

Whitehall, April 19th, 1713.

PERMIT me, Sir, to avail myself of the opportunity which the Abbé Gaultier's return to France affords me, to recal to your remembrance, a man, on whose heart your merit and kindness have made such an impression, as can never be effaced.

I saw the gentleman whose interest you recommended to me, and I have tried to do him all the service in my power. As he has not applied to me for some time past, I am in hopes his suit has ended in a manner agreeable to his wishes.

In a short time I shall have the honour to send you the Cæsar I promised you, and I flatter myself, that upon all occasions on which I may be so fortunate as to be of some service to you, you will employ me as one wholly yours, &c.

To Count Dernath. (Page 78).

S I R,

Tuesday, April 28th, 1713.

WHEN the business with which I am entrusted will allow me, I shall always be pleased to see you, and to

Q q 3

receive

receive the orders you may have to give me. By the letters which arrived yesterday, and not before, we received the answer to what I had written to Holland on the affairs of the North, and particularly of Holstein.

You know, Sir, the States-General are, in this respect, nearly under the same engagements as the Queen, therefore her Majesty wishes to act in concert with them.

To-morrow I shall have the honour to speak to you more fully on this subject, if you will trouble yourself, at noon, to step down to the office of, &c.

To the Duc d'Aumont. (Page 83.)

Whitehall, May 1st, 1713.

YOU may, Sir, assure the King, that the Queen's good offices will be urgently employed, to induce his Imperial Majesty, and his Highness the Elector Palatine, to consent to this expedient, and to any other that, being agreeable to the common interest, may make the peace general.

It is an undoubted fact, that it is for the benefit of the Emperor, to preserve the fortifications of Brisac, and those of Kehl; it is also for the advantage of the Elector of Bavaria, to return to the possession of his dominions, and the exercise of his rights, not only with regard to the present, but, also, to the views he may have in future. Suffer me to add, that it is for the interest of France, as well as of Great Britain, that the peace should be definitive and general.

We only wait for the ratifications, which were to be exchanged last Tuesday, to proclaim the peace with France, in form. You are not ignorant of the reports which are spread abroad by those geniuses, so fruitful in lies, with respect to the ratifications; reports which wise men despise, and which only gain the attention of fools. I am, &c.

To the Princess Ursini. (Page 87.)

May 8th, 1713.

I REPLY, Madam, to the letter your Highness has condescended to write to me, with every sentiment of respect and acknowledgement that such an honour exacts from me.

If,

If, on the one hand, I cannot flatter myself with having that extent of mind which the Marquis de Monteleon attributes to me, I dare, however, assure your Highness, on the other hand, that you will ever find in me that integrity and firmness of heart, upon all occasions in which you please to employ me.

The Earl of Oxford and I, Madam, know perfectly well to whom we are indebted for the favourable dispositions of their Catholic Majesties towards us. We feel a lively gratitude, and will endeavour by our conduct to merit the honourable title of good Spaniards; in this character, I give your Highness joy of the happy pregnancy of the Queen, and I pray God to preserve her Majesty, that she may give to Spain more heroes, and by a numerous race secure the tranquillity of Europe, which is just now restored.

In fact, Madam, the great work of the peace is no longer in doubt. All the powers engaged in the war, have signed their treaties with France; and are ready to do the same with Spain, except his Imperial Majesty, who, following the footsteps of his predecessors, wishes to be the last to conclude.

I have communicated to the Marquis de Monteleon the advices we received respecting the intentions of the Court of Vienna, and the judgment we form upon them. He must expect to meet with some difficulties in the negociation, both from the Imperialists and the Dutch; but, with his abilities, such difficulties will only tend to increase his fame, and to display his indefatigable zeal in the service of the King his master. He will be seconded in every thing by the Queen's Plenipotentiaries, who will have nothing to adjust with him, as the mutual interests of the Queen and the Catholic King are, at last, entirely settled.

This, Madam, is not the only advantage resulting from the settlement of the project of peace between our two Courts. We, by this means, take from the enemies to the peace, the fine opportunity they would have had, and of which they certainly would have availed themselves, had the Queen been obliged, when she communicates the treaties of peace and commerce with France to both Houses of Parliament, which she must do this day, to speak of the negociation with Spain as being still

open, and if the knowledge of the disputed points should in this manner come to meetings so numerous, and, consequently, so difficult to be governed.

They write from Utrecht, that M. d'Aubigny, who is charged with the interest of your Highness, is arrived; I flatter myself, he will be satisfied with the Queen's Plenipotentiaries, and I venture to assure your Highness, that those gentlemen are so instructed and impowered, agreeable to the measures concerted here between the Marquis de Montéleon and myself, that one way or other your pretensions must be successful, and obtain all that security which the Queen's guaranty can afford.

Her Majesty's yacht, which is to convey the Marquis de Montéleon to Holland, being ready, I suppose we shall, in a few days, lose a minister who, in this country, has made himself equally esteemed and beloved. For my own part, I am inconsolable. I lose at the same time the pleasure of negotiating with an able minister, and of living with an agreeable friend. To these sentiments, I must add the regret of parting with those gentlemen who came with him from France. To indemnify me in some measure for these misfortunes, I have tried, though vainly, to persuade Count de Montijo to continue, for some time longer, the amusements of London; had I been successful, I should have made my court to every thing valuable here, for every body is admiring the conduct of that young nobleman. We rarely find so much judgment combined with such vivacity, or such a knowledge of the world attendant on such early years.

I should be unworthy of the favours your Highness has conferred upon me, did I not return you my most humble thanks for taking under your protection a gentleman, who is a relation of mine, has some merit in his profession, and for whom you have procured the situation he holds in his Catholic Majesty's guards. While life continues, I shall retain a grateful remembrance, and shall take a pride in showing, upon all occasions, how much I am, &c.

I take the liberty, Madam, to add a few lines to the letter I had the honour to write to your Highness, in order to say, that the treaties with France as well as that with Spain, which the Marquis de Montéleon and I signed

signed, provisionally, have been communicated by her Majesty's order to the two Houses of Parliament. We have observed, that the schemes of those who are hostile to the peace have been disconcerted by this proceeding. In order to discomfit them every where else, the Marquis de Montéleon must, as soon as possible, repair to Utrecht, and sign the peace, in form, with the Duke d'Offuna.

With this view, and upon these principles, it were to be wished that the ratifications could be exchanged at the return of this messenger; which may be done if the King will trust them to his Plenipotentiaries, in blank, for them to insert the treaty which they will have signed with the Queen's ministers. I flatter myself beforehand, that your Highness will grant me this favour, when you reflect, that my sole object is to place this great work, which we have so far happily carried on, out of the reach of danger; to restore, as soon as possible, the former amity between our two nations; to promote what remains to be done at Utrecht by the ministers of Spain, and to ensure the conclusion of a general, by signing a separate peace. I am, &c.

Note. (Page 111.)

Memorial concerning the Ports, Harbours, and Lands, situate in the Province of Acadia, which belong to the Duke and Duchefs de Noirmontier, and to some other Individuals.

BY a decree of the Council of State, February 28, 1682, the King granted to the late Marquis de Cheury (father of the Duchefs of Noirmontier) and to his associates, consisting of four persons (who have declared the same for themselves, their heirs, successors, and others interested) the lands along the coast of Acadia and the river St. John, to form there a regular fishery to the extent of six leagues on all sides round the dwelling they may select, of which the King has made them a grant, on condition of paying to him the yearly rent of a mark of silver, and of establishing the fishery in one year.

In consequence of this decree, the late Marquis de Cheury and his associates established the fishery at Chedabouctou and Canceau, so that agreeable to the terms
of

of the said decree, their representatives are proprietors of the ports of Chedabouctou and Canceau, which are good ports, and in a good state of fishery, and that of Martingot, at two leagues' distance, which is also a good port for large ships, and has a good fishery for large fish, and within pistol-shot of this port. At the time of its settlement, a fort was built at the entrance of that of Chedabouctou, the place where the regular fishery was made.

By another decree of the Council of State, March 3, and by letters-patent, passed in the month of April, 1684, the King allowed an extension of the first grant. His Majesty has granted to the Marquis de Cheury and to his associates (whose names are expressly mentioned in their declaration) all the lands and islands on the coast of Acadia, from Cape Campseau to the Bay of Toutes Isles inclusive, with the depth of ten leagues, together with rights of hunting and fishing throughout that extent of country, his Majesty granting all those lands and islands in full propriety, and to hold them in fee of the crown of France, without farther charge or rent than two marks of silver per year, to be paid at the receipt of the western domains.

This last grant is of a great extent of country: for from Cape Campseau to the Bay of Toutes Isles inclusive, is twenty leagues, which, with ten leagues in depth, makes 200 leagues of country. In this country there is vast quantity of wood for buildings and masts, places proper for sawing-mills to prepare planks for ships, and other purposes. The lands at the depth of one league and a half or two leagues from the shore, are adapted to the growth of corn and hemp; there are fine meadows in many places, and pitch and tar may be made of as good quality as those imported from the north.

In the extent of the last grant, beside the three ports in the first, there is Moquedome, which is also a good harbour for large ships, and a good fishery; so that in the extent of twenty leagues there are four good ports, Chedabouctou, Campseau, Martingot, and Moquedome; there was, as has been said, a fort built at the entrance of Chedabouctou, and a number of habitations, which were destroyed in the war.

From

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 142.)

Marli, May 22d, 1713.

THE Abbé Gaultier was certain, Sir, of a good reception, and of my happiness at the sight of him, when he brought me two letters from you. There is nothing, I assure you, that can give me greater pleasure than these proofs of the continuance of the honour of your friendship; I will neglect nothing to preserve it, and I beg you will believe that I depend absolutely upon the assurances you have given me, well knowing, Sir, your steady attachment to those whom you number among your friends. This is a candid and serious avowal of my sentiments, which I entrust to you; and if, unfortunately, any unlucky jest has escaped, which becomes still more unlucky from the distance between us, and the necessity of an explanation, I declare that I hold in detestation any thing that may have appeared contrary to my real sentiments, that I regard it as the work of that evil spirit, who often tempts women to speak contrary to truth, and induces men to respect their sayings.

Seriously, my Lord, I should never have done, were I to tell you, how much I was mortified at what the Abbé Gaultier told me confidentially; but I refer to what I shall say to him, upon this subject, when he returns to you. In the mean time, I beg you to be convinced, that I should think I had lost every thing, if the friendship you have honoured me with shall suffer any alteration through my fault.

I could in no better manner signify to the King your reception of what his Majesty has ordered the Duke d'Aumont to say to you, than by reading to him that paragraph in your letter. You may rely upon it, my Lord, his sentiments with regard to you are such as you deserve from all who know you, either personally or from your achievements. The settlement of the general peace still meets with obstruction from the Court of Vienna, as your Plenipotentiaries will have informed you; but I own I can scarcely believe that these difficulties can long subsist, or that a power, who could not have carried on the war, if he had not been supported by the allies, whom he has lost, can now, after twelve years' war, be in condition to carry it on with his own forces only.

I therefore,

I therefore, hope, that wise reflections will succeed the first transport of rage, and nothing is more likely to produce them than firmness on the King's side, in support of his resolutions, and a perfect union with the Queen. I wish she may approve of the proposition which the Duke d'Aumont is to make, to put the Elector of Bavaria in possession of Sardinia, which may be very easily done. The House of Austria will certainly not be persuaded otherwise than by demonstration, that the ravages of war may fall as heavy upon them as upon the Princes of the Empire, and if in the sequel we could give them just cause of uneasiness on the side of Italy, we should soon see a more pacific tendency in their projects.

It will not be your fault, my Lord, if justice is not done to the Duke de St. Pierre; I know not what other modes of expression I can use to thank you for your attention to his interests, and for the effects already produced. If the Emperor will hear reason on the article of peace, you will make him listen to the same monitor on the remunerations due from him. I must not presume to offer my most humble thanks to that great Queen, in whose name your orders went to Utrecht, but if you think, my Lord, that respect will allow me, I entreat you to speak for me, and certainly you will express my thoughts better than I myself could.

I shared with the Duke of Shrewsbury in the pleasure of finding an opportunity to manifest the good faith of France, in the attention the King paid to what he represented on the subject of the declaration which he demanded. It is with you now, my Lord, to avenge us for all the abusive language vomited forth against us at Ratisbon. In truth, among the Germans, we find many occasions to say, their Excellencies are intoxicated.

I wait, with much impatience, the departure of the Marquis de Montéleon, and his arrival at Utrecht. Were he to consult only his own inclination, I am persuaded he would not leave London to embark for Holland; but his presence is so very necessary there, and the business would never be settled, were he to leave the management of it to his colleague. You know by experience, my Lord, that there are many points upon which the Court of Spain is unmanageable; judge then if France could

govern it. I assure you, it was fortunate that Montéleon was chosen to negotiate in London, and that any other than he, with such orders from Madrid, would have let the business, with which he was entrusted, hang on hand a long time.

The Abbé Gaultier spoke to me, as from you, about establishing a trade with French Flanders. Beside my inclination to commend any thing that comes from the persons he named, I believe, my Lord, even without a prepossession, nothing can be better for both nations. But you fill up the port of Dunkirk, which would be of essential service to this branch of commerce, and which ought never to alarm you, all the fortifications, as well on the sea as the land side, being destroyed, and the place remaining only a trading town. This is all I will say on this subject, for I will not give your Whigs the pleasure to say, that France wishes to retract the solemn engagements she entered into.

Our Whigs, whom you notice to me, my Lord, are not so fond of the Dutch since they made peace; but they assure us, we can do no harm to the Empire, and that we have every thing to fear from the Germanic body.

You pay for the pleasure I have in writing to you; for I can scarce prevail upon myself to conclude a letter, the reading of which will be tiresome to you; I must therefore defer what I had farther to say, assuring you, &c.

DE TORCY.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 148.)

Whitehall, May 31st, 1713.

I AVAIL myself of the opportunity of a messenger whom I dispatch to the Duke of Shrewsbury, to return you my very humble thanks for the honour of continuing your friendship to me, and for renewing your assurances of it in so obliging a manner; I depend entirely upon it. I know your heart, and I know my own. I am incapable of committing the least fault, through which I might deserve an alteration in your friendship, and you are too equitable to deprive me, without reason, of a blessing, which you so generously bestowed upon me, and which I value more than life itself.

I therefore conjure you, Sir, to make no more reflections on the accident which the Abbé Gaultier mentioned
to

to you ; since I disclosed my opinion upon it, you ought to suppose it left no bad impression upon my mind. I own, I could not forbear laughing with the Abbé at the inconveniences which those people are liable to, who pretend to intimacies which they do not enjoy, and play the part of a Minister of State very unseasonably. I judge, as you do, that wise reflections will follow the first transport of rage, and that the Court of Vienna will soon alter their tone, and, perhaps, they mean only a change of scene, and to conclude the peace any where else than at Utrecht.

I say nothing more upon this subject, because I have spoken much at length with the Duke d'Aumont, upon what he communicated to me. You will, perhaps, be at first surprised to learn, that the factious here are moving heaven and earth, to prevent the ninth article of the treaty of commerce having its due effect ; but the surprize will cease when you take the trouble to consider, that these people are vexed that the prejudices with which they had fettered the minds of the people, were completely done away. They know the most certain method to reunite the two nations in the bonds of indissoluble friendship, is to revive a free and profitable trade ; but it would be the ruin of a plan, which they have at all times worked at, and for five-and-twenty years with too much success.

We shall be steadily employed to frustrate the designs of the evil-minded, and the perfect union now established, and which must be maintained between the two Courts, will enable us to succeed.

In a short time I shall have the honour to write to you very amply on this subject, and on that of Dunkirk. But now, when we are in the middle of a Session of Parliament, domestic business has been heavy upon us, and will not allow us the necessary time to think of foreign affairs. We pay all due attention to Northern affairs and the situation of Sweden, and the Duke of Shrewsbury will speak to you on these heads.

My letter becomes insensibly too long, I know it, and yet I can scarce resolve to finish it. I steal away from the intrigues of party, and the debates of a popular assembly, to write to the man in the world whom I most perfectly esteem ; judge, then, if I am not right in protracting a pleasure as long as I possibly can ? I am, &c. B.

To the Marquis de Montéleon. (Page 154.)

Whitehall, June 1st, 1713.

AS your Excellency is now arrived at Utrecht, I begin to avail myself of the liberty you gave me, to write to you occasionally. Beside the advantage which I shall derive for myself from this correspondence, we may perhaps be enabled to promote the mutual interests of our two Courts, and strengthen that friendship and good understanding of which we had the honour to lay the foundation; but the infallible means of doing this, and which would to a certainty make the bonds of union between Great Britain and Spain indissoluble, would be your presence in this country.

I am so fully convinced of this truth, that I cannot forbear renewing my instances that you may take every proper measure to return to us; and I assure you I daily repeat the same language to Don Patricio. I did not omit making your compliments to the Queen; and you may be assured that the Queen will, at all times, show you every real token of her esteem for your person, and her high opinion of your merit.

I hope, Sir, you will not delay signing the treaty of peace which we adjusted here; and the rather, as I find that in the end the Catholic King will be very well satisfied with the article about religion, that about the Catalans having been drawn up to please him. In the name of God! let no time be lost, in sending you the ratifications in blank, according to what we proposed.

With regard to the Germans, I retain my first opinion: they will sign the peace; but, crafty as they are, rather than sign at Utrecht, they will accept of perhaps worse conditions.

By this post I write to the Queen's Plenipotentiaries, upon the interest of the Princess Ursini. As the Emperor delays all accommodation, and as it is probable the theatre of negotiation is about to be changed, it would be proper to agree upon, without loss of time, the plan we are to pursue, and to bring the Dutch into it.

Farewell, my dear Sir; do me the justice to believe, that I am, &c.

To the Marquis de Montéleon. (Page 160.)

Whitehall, June 9th, 1713.

I ANSWER, Sir, your letter of the 7th, N.S. and that which Count de Lecheraine gave me at the same time. The intelligence your Excellency gives me, that the ratifications will be sent in the terms we agreed upon, is a consolation to me, without which I own I should have been vexed with the tardiness of your colleague. Teach the Duke d'Osuna, that in politics, as in love, we must not lose favourable opportunities, nor expose ourselves to contingencies.

I am sorry to remark in the Princess Ursini's letter some traits of asperity; the contents of the treaty are, if I am not deceived, conformable to the terms of the first proposal made by France in favour of that Princess. But, Sir, you know the Queen's intentions, and the plan she is ready to adopt.

Excuse the haste with which I write, and believe me, I am, &c.

I forgot to thank your Excellency for your letter of the 16th instant. In the name of God! finish the treaty, and return hither. If your Court could see the consequence of such a resolution in the light we do, they would not hesitate a moment to send you to London, as soon as you had concluded at Utrecht.

To Count Montijo. (Page 161.)

Whitehall, June 19th, 1713.

I HAVE, during my life, often been in love, my very dear, very amiable Count, but I do not remember that, upon leaving the object of my affections, I ever felt such acute sorrow as when I parted from you; nor ever received a *billet-doux* that gave me pleasure equal to that occasioned by your letter. The Queen's officers whom you met with in our garrisons, did nothing more than their duty, in paying you the honours which lay in their power: had they omitted them, they would certainly have drawn upon them the anger of all gallant men and pretty women.

Madame Marschalch has been in this country a year
and

and a half; we were surprised with her beauty, and will be delighted to see her again. To compensate for the good news you send me, I must tell you, that the Duchess of Richmond and Lady Newbury desire their compliments, and beg you will not forget them. Lady Berkeley, also, depends upon your remembrance of her.

I inclose the cypher I promised. Preserve your affection for me, and be assured of my tenderness and esteem. Farewell, my dear friend; tears are in my eyes when I finish my letter: once more, farewell. I am, &c.

Wyndham, the old soldier, and the Duke, assure you of their esteem and eternal remembrance: there is not a place in the world where you are more regretted than at Craco Hall.

I am obliged to defer sending the cypher till next week.

To the Duke de St. Pierre. (Page 166.)

S I R,

Whitehall, June 22d, 1713.

I HAD the honour to receive your letter of the 27th instant, N.S. by Count de Lecheraine, as also that in January, with the inclosed memorials. I acknowledge I never saw a right better founded than your's, nor harder treatment than you have suffered. Such is my opinion; but I venture to add, what is of far greater importance, that it is the opinion of the Queen. I wrote frequently to the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain in this style, and I know not how orders can be drawn up to be more precise and positive than those they received on your account.

I think I have noticed to the Marquis de Torcy, and I repeat it to you, Sir, that you have only to commit to writing the instructions you may wish to have sent to our Minister, and I can answer the Queen will give her orders accordingly. In the mean time, her Majesty has ordered me to write, by the messenger that sets off tomorrow, upon the plan in your last letter.

I pride myself, Sir, upon being a plain, open man, my enemies may probably tell you I am too much so, but it is certain I will never deceive any person; and were I so inclined, I should not begin with the Duke of St.

VOL. IV.

R r

Pierre,

Pierre, the brother-in-law of the Marquis de Torcy. In one word, rely upon it, that there is nothing within my power which I am not ready to do for your service. I heartily wish I could both give and execute the instructions, but in my situation I can only do the first.

The conferences between the Imperial and French Ministers at Utrecht are broken off; God knows where they may be resumed! But wherever the Queen's Ministers are, you will find zealous agents and faithful servants. I am, &c.

To the Princess Ursini. (Page 169.)

MADAM,

Whitehall, June 25th, O.S. 1713.

I CANNOT omit joining with the Duke d'Offuna, and the Marquis de Montéleon, in recommending the Count de Lecheraine to your Highness's protection. After having received, in the person of my relative, such evident tokens of generosity, I ought to consider why, in so short a time, I make a second application; but in truth, Madam, I should be more ashamed were I to withhold my testimony to the distinguished merit of him who has the honour to convey this letter.

I have known Count de Lecheraine many years; he was in our service during the war, and is one of the senior Major-generals; and I can assure your Highness, that whenever any of our greatest plans which were executed in Germany, or elsewhere, were under consideration, he was always in the secret, and constantly acquitted himself with honour in the part entrusted to him. In making the eulogy of my friend, Madam, I confine myself to simple facts, without the least exaggeration: I will conclude it by assuring your Highness, that if, under your patronage, he is so fortunate as to enter into the service of his Catholic Majesty, he will answer the character I gave him, that of a good man, both in the cabinet and in the field.

The intelligence your Highness receives direct from Utrecht, informs you so exactly of every thing that passes there, that it would be superfluous in me to say any thing upon that subject. The Queen's Plenipotentiaries were instructed pursuant to the wishes of the Marquis de Montéleon, and I flatter myself that Minister is ably seconded by

by them, as he seems to be very well contented. I have the honour to be, &c.

To the Princess Ursini. (Page 185.)

Whitehall, July 5th, 1713.

I SEE, Madam, by letters from Lord Lexington, and the Marquis de Montéleon, the uneasiness your Highness laboured under, when you observed that the project last sent from hence, and upon the basis of which, we hoped the Plenipotentiaries at the Congress would soon accomplish the treaty of peace, did not contain the article respecting the independent sovereignty. I would not therefore lose a moment in dispatching this messenger, to inform your Highness of the grounds upon which the Marquis de Montéleon and I, regulated our conduct. I flatter myself beforehand, that you will be satisfied, and will find that your interest, with relation to the Queen, could not be better ordered. The plan contains only those articles of the treaty of peace, which relate solely to the two Courts, in the negotiating of which no other power has a right to interfere, and of which, we were then in a condition to settle the terms definitively.

There are other articles, as that which relates to the sovereignty of your Highness, that which relates to the fief of Sienna, and that which his Catholic Majesty is so desirous of, to prevent any ulterior dismemberment of the Spanish monarchy, upon which there is not the least dispute between the Queen's ministers and those of his Majesty, and yet it was impossible to know precisely in what terms they should be inserted in the treaty, at the time when we signed the project. This, Madam, is the only reason, why your Highness did not find the stipulation you expected. The substance was agreed upon, the proper form only was wanting. As I have entered at large upon this subject with Lord Lexington, I will not trespass farther on your Highness's patience; that Minister will have the honour to explain to you our ideas, and to assure you, there is no cause for alarm.

The Queen's good faith has been evident during the whole of the negociation, and her Majesty will certainly not grow cool in an affair she has taken so much to heart, and upon which, your Highness must know the ardour

and resolution with which her Ministers have insisted. If in the treaty between France and Holland, they have been satisfied with the term principality, without specifying the sovereignty and independence, which gives occasion to the Ministers of the States, to quibble with those of Spain, they have done wrong, but it is easily remedied; and I dare answer to your Highness, as my Lord Strafford has done to the Marquis de Montéleon, who was alarmed at a conference he had with Mynheer Vanderdussen, that the Spanish Plenipotentiaries have only to be firm and united with those of Great Britain, in order to pass this article in the manner agreed upon and drawn up by them.

I cannot prevail upon myself to conclude this letter, which from its length must be tiresome, without having the honour to tell your Highness, that the Queen hopes the treaty of commerce is perfected, since her Majesty cannot suffer Mr. Gilligan to remain any longer at Madrid, as she is in want of his services elsewhere.

The Queen did every thing in her power to remove the difficulties that had occurred, and to facilitate the negotiations of the Spanish ministers as well here as at Utrecht; she flatters herself, that in return the Catholic King will send all necessary orders to conclude a treaty, which relates to the interests of both nations, and which has been many months under discussion. I am, &c.

To the Marquis de Montéleon. (Page 189.)

Whitehall, July 12th, 1713.

I WAS not much in a hurry, I own, Sir, to answer the honour of your letter the 2d instant, N.S. which I received from Monsieur Tanquaux, because, I knew that in a few days, every thing the Queen could do in favour of the Prince's Urini would be done, and because, I also knew how impossible it was to make any addition to the positive orders with which the Queen's Ambassadors were already provided.

You have spoken, Sir, to Mynheer Vanderdussen, and to the other Deputies of the States, in a style that must be kept up; continue to do so, these people will yield, and the result of the business will be agreeable to our wishes. I must not conceal from you, that I found the Queen a
little

little offended, that the Princess Ursini has so soon taken the alarm, and that such ill-founded suspicions have stopped the course of the negociations at Madrid, and impeded a treaty which should have been concluded a long time ago: her Majesty thinks, that after all her declarations, after all the measures she has taken for that Princess, her good faith, which her Majesty has never forfeited, should not have been called in question.

I give your Excellency joy with all my heart, of the accomplishment of our grand work: let us labour to make that union, newly settled, eternal, by removing all jealousy which can alone hurt it. It is unnecessary for me to explain myself farther, your Excellency knows my meaning.

The Queen's ministers will certainly confer with you, pursuant to the orders, I send them by this messenger. Your Excellency will see, by their representations, in what light her Majesty sees the negociation between Spain and Portugal. I will not enlarge upon this; I will confine myself to intreat you will let the Court of Madrid be fully informed that the Queen cannot withhold her support from the Portuguese, after having obliged them to depart from certain demands, very severe to the Catholic King, but such as her Majesty would have been obliged to insist upon, if the Court of Lisbon had not consented to withdraw them.

I can add nothing to the arguments I have frequently used to show the advantage to both nations in sending you to the Queen. I suppose you are intended for the embassy to France; you know my reflections upon that head; I doubt much that many others will make the same. I am, &c.

To the Duke d'Osuna. (Page 192).

SIR,

Whitehall, July 21st, 1713.

YOUR Excellency will suffer me to take advantage of the departure of this messenger, to give you joy on the happy conclusion of the great work of the peace. Your attention, Sir, has greatly contributed to it, and I make no doubt you will continue the same care to strengthen the union of the two nations.

Your Excellency will see, by the article which the

Queen's Ministers have just signed, and which I shall send back, ratified, in a few days to Utrecht, infinitely better, what are her Majesty's intentions concerning the Princess Ursini, than by any thing I can write. We flatter ourselves that Princess will now be convinced that her interests were in safe hands when they were intrusted to the Queen.

I am, &c.

To the Duke d'Atri. (Page 193.)

Whitehall, July 12th, 1713.

I REJOICE with you, Sir, on the return of peace between two nations, who can never be hostile to each other without foregoing their real interests. You are my witness, Sir, how convinced we are of this maxim. I make no doubt they are as fully persuaded of the truth of it in Spain, and that nothing will be able in future to disturb that strict amity and good understanding which are just restored.

I am, &c.

To the Marquis de Montéleon. (Page 193.)

Whitehall, July 14th, 1713.

THOUGH I answered your last letters by the messenger who left us on Sunday last, yet, Sir, you must suffer me to seize the opportunity of the return of M. Tanqueux to repeat my compliments.

I hear, from all sides, that the Court of Spain intends to appoint you to the embassy to France; even the Duke d'Aumont has assured me of it. If such an appointment be agreeable to you, I feel as much interested as the sincerest friendship for you requires. You know, Sir, my sentiments on this subject. The mutual interests of Spain and Great Britain, the support of the union we have just restored, seem to demand more care than ordinary in the choice of the Catholic King's Minister to this Court, at least, during the two first years of the peace. The most exact conduct, and most perfect confidence, are requisite to extirpate entirely the prejudices, which have gained strength during the war, to prevent jealousies which may arise during the peace, to lay the foundation for the increase of power to the Spanish monarchy, in which we should find our account, and to unite us in such a manner,

that neither accidents, which may happen here or in Spain, nor the changes, which time may bring about in the general system of European affairs, should be able in future to divide our interests, or make us inimical to each other. Such are the objects we might have in employing you at the Queen's Court, but his Catholic Majesty may foresee contingencies, which may occur in France, of greater consequence to his kingdoms and family; your Excellency desired me to write without reserve; I promised so to do, and I keep my word.

The Earl of Strafford informs me, that in the article of your treaty with Holland, which states, that the Dutch shall be upon the foot of *amicissima gens*, there is an exception, for the ship allowed to the Queen's subjects by the assiento. I know not if it had been better, as an exception has been found necessary, to couch it in more extensive terms, with relation to this contract in general.

Tell me, if you please, confidentially, how far the Duke d'Orfuna was pleased with my answer to his letter, some time ago, in respect to the article he proposed to insert in the treaty with Savoy. I own I was much perplexed on that occasion.

The Dutch Ministers are, in truth, not very gallant, to create obstacles in an affair where a lady is concerned; I hope they will give up their opinion, and show, as we do, more politeness. I am, &c.

In the name of God, finish with the Portuguese.

To the Princess Ursini. (Page 221.)

MADAM,

Whitehall, August 2d, 1713.

I RECEIVED your Highness's letter of the 24th ult. by Lord Lexington's messenger. I dare assure you, that no one wishes more warmly than I do, to be useful to you. I endeavoured to exemplify this zeal for the service of your Highness, when we were employed on the treaty of peace, which was lately concluded between the two Crowns; I shall act upon the same principles in future, and your Highness may command me, as one entirely devoted to you.

Mr. Lawless will have the honour to write, and Lord Lexington to represent, *viva voce*, to your Highness, the reasons which disable the Queen from assisting in the expedient proposed by his Catholic Majesty, to level those obstacles, which prevent your Highness taking possession of the sovereignty, granted to you by an act of cession of the King of Spain, and of which the Queen was willing to be a guarantee. The British troops are, indeed, in Ghent, in Bruges, and in Nieupoort, but they are very small in number. They are, perhaps, sufficient for the ordinary garrison of those places in time of peace, but they do not amount to the fifth part of what would be necessary to execute a project, which the States and the people of the country would certainly oppose, supported by the Emperor and the Dutch.

I must not conceal from your Highness, that this difficulty is not the only one that occurs; the cession of the Spanish Low Countries was made in favour of the House of Austria, the Act of Cession was committed to the Queen, in trust; and her Majesty has no right to keep a garrison even in the places above-mentioned, otherwise than in the Emperor's name, and that only until the barrier of the Dutch, and the commerce of the Ten Provinces, be settled.

Your Highness is too just not to give in to the force of this reasoning, and too enlightened not to see, that the facts I have the honour to lay before you, will not suffer her Majesty, however strong her inclination to please you, to undertake a scheme of this nature. Still farther to confirm you in this opinion, I ought not to keep from you an account I have just received, which is, that the Dutch having taken the alarm at some expressions dropped at Utrecht, concerning the town of Nieupoort, have instantly withdrawn the only Walloon regiment they had at Ostend, and have strengthened that garrison with battalions of their own troops.

The Duke d'Offuna and the Marquis de Montéleon, support Mr. d'Aubigny in his office with all necessary ardor and ability. The Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain will, in like manner, keep up to her Majesty's engagements on this head, and I make no doubt your Highness will be, in a short time, contented with the result of their united exertions. The Dutch may assume a haughty tone,
and

and may affect to be very scrupulous in their conduct with the Emperor, but still they must consent to a condition, upon which their peace with Spain depends.

My letter is become immoderately long, your Highness may, perhaps, find it tedious; I must, however, before I close it, represent to you shortly, what I explained at length to Monsieur Lawless, relative to the Queen's sentiments, of the present state of the negociation with the Spanish Ministers. It appears to her Majesty, that the only means to remove all hope from those who are for the continuance of the war, is to conclude, as soon as possible, the treaties now in dispute, and which ought not to suffer any impediment. The foes to the peace flatter themselves with the hope of accidents that may derange the system planned for the restoration of the tranquillity of Europe; those gentlemen would be playing with shadows, were the peace of the Empire, the only one remaining unfinished. But in truth, Madam, they have some reason to take courage, when they see the cession of Sicily to the Duke of Savoy, granted upon conditions, not inserted in the treaty last concluded with that Prince; when they see neither the armistice renewed, nor the peace signed with Portugal; in fine, when they know that the treaty of commerce between Spain and Great Britain, after a negociation of many months, is still open; that many articles are refused, many others drawn in a vague and ambiguous manner; and that two others are sent from Madrid to Utrecht, that is to say, from those who grant powers and instructions, to those who can do nothing but receive the one, and execute the other.

The Queen cannot doubt that his Catholic Majesty will, in this important crisis, take a resolution worthy of his prudence; and she assures herself that your Highness, who hitherto has contributed so largely to the advancement of this great work, will continue to forward it, and not leave it in an imperfect state.

Her Majesty feels herself obliged by the Catholic King's attention to the representations of the French Minister, on the subject of the Prince de la Riccia. The Queen could wish that this unfortunate old man could be enlarged from strict confinement in prison, where he has languished so long, upon such conditions as the King may be pleased to prescribe. This would be an additional obligation she
would

would be under to his Catholic Majesty. I have only to add to this long letter, my assurances, that I am, &c.

B.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 226.)

MY LORD,

Marli, August 6th, 1713.

I HAVE much pleasure in giving M. de la Faye, Gentleman in Ordinary of the King's Household, the letter he asks to you, being certain you will be pleased with his acquaintance, and will find he deserves, of himself, the goodness I entreat you to extend to him. He will see that the commendations bestowed upon you here, and which affect him so much, are not equal to your merit. I hope you will believe him, when he assures you, I am, &c.

DE TORCY.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 227.)

SIR,

Marli, August 6th, 1713.

HOWEVER well I may wish the Abbé Gaultier, I cannot avoid envying him the happiness he will soon have of being with you. I could wish, at least, to share it with him, and that it were customary to make annual visits to those whom we honour, and, I will say, love, as truly as you deserve to be, whenever one becomes acquainted with you.

I should refer myself to what the Abbé Gaultier would tell you of my sentiments, did I not depend much more upon the justice you do me, and of which you assure me in your last letter. I entreat you will never entertain a thought to the contrary; and on my part I assure you, I will be guarded against any pleasantry that may receive a false interpretation.

I see, Sir, with much pleasure, that the principle of maintaining a good correspondence between the two Courts, is on both sides settled. I hope, that by adhering constantly to it, the schemes of the evil-minded with you, will fall to the ground, and I believe they would not have subsisted so long, had it been possible to extinguish that remnant

remnant of war, which the Court of Vienna will maintain, in hopes of events in France and England.

You know, Sir, the King's disposition for peace; perhaps, if the enemy were less convinced of this, they would be more urgent to find means to conclude the war. I wish her Majesty may still have the satisfaction to contribute to its extinction, notwithstanding the dislike of the Germans to her mediation. You are now at more liberty to evince its importance, as the prorogation of the Parliament gives you more leisure to consider of foreign affairs, and I believe the Queen's good offices and instances towards a general pacification, will always have great weight.

I entreat you, my Lord, to preserve for me, the share you promised me in the honour of your friendship. No one can be, with greater truth, than I am, &c.

DE TORCY.

To Count de Maffei. (Page 247.)

S I R,

Windsor, August 26th, 1713.

I HAVE just read to the Queen, his Royal Highness's letter, as also that which you did me the honour to write. You so well know her Majesty's sentiments, and the resolution she took upon the very extraordinary proceeding (to say nothing worse of it) of the Court of Spain, in regard to the treaty last concluded at Utrecht, with his Royal Highness, that it is unnecessary for me to be more prolix on that head. It will therefore be sufficient to tell you, that the Queen approves of your master's scheme, that he should take actual possession of Sicily, and leave to us the task of scolding the Spaniards, till he is in a condition not to fear delays, if he assumes another tone than he ought to use in his present situation.

I will write again, both to France, to Spain, and to Utrecht. The secret his Royal Highness requires, shall be kept inviolably. You will please to make my compliments to the Marquis de Trivié, and will have the goodness to prepossess him in my favour. The Queen will give him an audience on Monday next, before dinner; I hope you will bring him with you, to take his soup with me.

I flatter

I flatter myself you will be satisfied with the manner in which I have drawn your re-credentials. I am, &c.

B.

To Count de Maffei. (Page 248.)

SIR,

Windsor, August 28th, 1713.

I HAVE just received the honour of your letter. The Queen's Plenipotentiaries in Holland shall be instructed according to your wishes. You did well not to conceal any thing from my Lord Peterborough. It is necessary he should know every thing that relates to the interest of his Royal Highness, as the Queen intends him for her Ambassador to your master. I am, &c.

B.

To Count de Maffei. (Page 249.)

Windsor, September 1st, 1713.

THE Letters I received from Holland, while we were at dinner, gave me nearly the same account as that of the Marquis de Bourg to you. In truth, Sir, we cannot make the use of it as the Court of Madrid has done; but we must dissemble our resentment, that it may have greater effect in time and place. The Queen will follow the plan I proposed to you yesterday. I wrote to Utrecht, and every where else, that the Queen will think herself justified, after the recent proceedings of the Court of Spain, in not exchanging the ratifications, until she sees his Royal Highness in the actual possession of Sicily. I no longer mention a word of the new or the old treaty; on the contrary, I let the Spaniards believe the Queen only looks to the time to come. Assure your master, boldly, that he may depend upon all possible good-will and firmness on this side. You know, Sir, we shall be deficient in neither.

I send you a copy of your re-credentials, the original will be sent to Baron Peronne on Friday next, with the Queen's letters for his Royal Highness, for the Duchess, and for Madame Royale. As I could neither find, in the office of the southern department, your credentials, nor the letters, which the Duchess and Madame Royale probably wrote to the Queen at that time, I was obliged to draw up the first according to the re-credentials, and her Majesty in that has done you justice. The lettres-de-cachet, which
you

you will receive, are in answer to those brought by the Marquis de Trivié. I made your compliments to the Queen with the best grace I could; she wishes you all happiness. I shall certainly send you a letter, when I take the liberty to write to his Royal Highness, to thank him for his goodness towards me, and to assure him of the respectful attachment with which I shall be, during life, devoted to his service.

Be pleased to have the goodness to let me know, if you wish that in the lettres-de-cachet, which must be written to-morrow, the Queen should use the Royal Style; that of the re-credentials, having been made and passed before we received the news of the exchange of your ratifications, being in the Old Style.

Farewell, my dear Count, retain me in your valuable friendship, and be assured, that amidst the changes and caprices of fortune, to which an English minister is exposed, nothing shall be capable of altering that perfect esteem, with which I am, &c.

B.

To the King of Sicily. (Page 269).

S I R E,

Windfor, September 7th, O.S. 1713.

THE justice your Majesty wishes to do to the sentiments of my heart, and the gracious manner in which your goodness repays the little services that I have been able to do you, beyond their deserts, fill me with gratitude, and load me with honour. I have always, with a becoming respect, admired those great qualities which attach your Majesty to the Queen, my mistress, more closely than the ties of blood; and I have always considered, that, next to her Majesty, my zeal and devotion were due to you; this is a principle which, through life, I will adhere to; happy if, by the sacrifice of life itself, I could more clearly show my submission to your orders, my veneration for your sacred person, and the extent of my gratitude for having had the happiness of deserving your approbation.

I am, with the most perfect attachment, and most profound respect, &c.

B.

To

To the Marquis de Trivié. (Page 270).

S I R,

Windfor, September 8th, O.S. 1713.

THE Queen's letters-de-cachet for the King and Queen of Sicily, and for Madame Royale, will have been delivered to you, by such of my first clerks as is now in London, and if you have not yet dispatched them, you will be time enough to-morrow morning, since the packet is stopped by my orders, until the arrival of my dispatches for France and Spain, which cannot be ready till to-morrow. I have written to the office, to send you word when the express goes.

By a messenger from the Catholic King, I have just received letters from the Princess Ursini, and the Queen's Ambassador; the latest are of the 4th instant, N.S.; they are in reply to mine written upon the first rumour of what the Court of Spain intended, in relation to your treaty, before even Count de Maffei had spoken to me on the subject, perhaps before he knew any thing of it. I observe, that the style in which I spoke, by her Majesty's order, did not fail of its effect. Monteleon will be here immediately, to make apologies, and endeavour to satisfy the Queen.

Suffer me to suggest to you, by the way, the interests of her Majesty, and of the King your master, will always, as I hope, be the same every where; but on the side of Spain they cannot clash: would it not be proper, that the Ministers of our two Courts should be directed to understand each other?

Be pleased to excuse a letter, ill written, and worse digested; I have not time to correct it. I am, &c.

B.

To the Princess Ursini. (Page 279).

MADAM,

Windfor, September 16th, 1713.

I DO myself the honour to answer the two letters your Highness wrote to me, the 2d and 27th of last month, N.S. and I must ingenuously acknowledge that I feel myself embarrassed how to express the pleasure and acknowledgment I felt when I read them. The maxims upon which your Highness grounds your reasoning, and
your

your conduct, are the only true ones, and I venture to say, no others can do away the obstacles that still subsist to retard the conclusion of a general peace.

By pursuing the principles upon which all our negotiations have hitherto turned, we shall infallibly obtain our grand object. By forming new plans, which derange the old system, we expose ourselves to the overthrow of the whole. If the Queen lays greater stress upon certain points, than is suitable to the interests of his Catholic Majesty, have the goodness, Madam, to reflect, and to make others do so, upon what was the state of affairs in Europe, when the Queen took upon herself those engagements, pursuant to which her Majesty finds herself obliged to speak and to act; how necessary those engagements were to dispose minds, irritated by a long war, and intoxicated with success, to pacific sentiments; and how trifling is the comparison between the restoration of the public repose, and the more or less that remains to be settled.

Lord Lexington will inform your Highness, that the Queen's opinion was against the Marquis de Monteleon's journey. Her Majesty could, with much pleasure, see the return of a Minister, to her Court, whom she esteems much, and who has had the happiness to deserve her confidence; but when she reflected on the jealousies which such a journey, at such a crisis, might cause, she thought it her duty to prefer the interests of his Catholic Majesty, to her own satisfaction.

The Queen, Madam, has charged me to renew her assurances to your Highness, that she will support your pretensions for the future, as she has hitherto done, and that she wishes to regard your Highness as one of the bonds that form the union she wishes to maintain, as long as she lives, with their Catholic Majesties.

His Majesty's condescension to the Queen, in the affair of Prince de la Riccia, affects her Majesty sensibly; the greater his crime was, the greater is the King's clemency, and the Queen's obligation.

Your Highness, before I close my letter, will permit me to notice the very great pleasure I receive upon reading what you had the goodness to write to me, concerning Count de Montijo. As marriage is, perhaps, the most important action in a man's life, my friend could not do better

better than give up to your Highness the choice of his wife; it is a fresh proof of the goodness of his understanding, and an additional reason to increase, if it be possible, the esteem and tenderness I conceived for him, during his stay with us. It remains that I ask your Highness's pardon for the length of my letter, and intreat you to be persuaded that I am, &c.

B.

I ought not to forget to return your Highness my very humble thanks for all your kindness to Count de Leche-raine.

To Count de Montijo. (Page 285).

MY DEAR COUNT,

Windfor, September 16th, 1713.

I REPLY to your two letters of the 25th August, and 4th September, for which I am beyond expression obliged to you. Because I esteem and love you, your interests become mine. I take the same part in your preferment as I do in my own; and I swear to you, that even in disgrace, if such should be my lot, your happiness would be a consolation to me. Love me then always, for I indeed deserve it of you. I am much obliged to you for the politeness you have shown to Count de Leche-raine; he is an officer of much distinction, and my old companion.

How agreeably you flatter me, my dear boy, when you give me the pleasing hope of seeing you one day again. My heart tells me it will so happen. The Princess Urfini, however, writes, that you wish her to select a wife for you, and after marriage, you have not the appearance of a rambler. In a word, if you do not come to Great Britain, I will go to Spain to embrace you.

All your friends here equally love and regret you. Windham is promoted to the place of Chancellor of the Exchequer; and I believe you will see in the successor to Lexington, a man whom, if I am not mistaken, you have known and approved. Farewell, my dear Count. I am, &c.

B.

To

To the Duke d'Aumont. (Page 286).

S I R,

Windsor, September 15th, 1713.

WITH this letter you will receive the answer the Queen has ordered me to make to the memorial you last sent me. I write to Prior, by the messenger that will set off to-morrow, on the subject we discoursed upon on Sunday. The answers to the letters I wrote concerning the ships you reclaim, I shall have in a day or two. I will inform you of them directly. I send you the extract you wished to have, of the letters of the Princess Ursini, on the subject of Prince de la Riccia. Your cloth will be restored, and Sir William Wyndham will take a pleasure in being useful to the person named James, when he returns from his election. At present my time passes unpleasant enough; but I hope to be recompensed during the four days I am to pass with you.

Farewell, my dear Duke. I am, &c.

B.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 310).

Fontainebleau, September 11th, 1713.

I DO not so much compliment you, my Lord, as myself, upon the change in your department. I expect to gain much from it, and I also fancy, you will not be displeased to have, in future, a more immediate and frequent connection with a country, where you are so much beloved and honoured as you are in France. I wish soon to have other compliments to make to you; and whatever may be the rewards which your merits and services may obtain, I venture to assure you, my Lord, that no person will feel greater interest on the occasion than, &c.

DE TORCY.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 311).

Windsor, September 29th, O.S. 1713.

HAVING gained, by a late promotion made by the Queen, the choice of the departments, you will suppose, Sir, I did not hesitate a moment to select that in which France is situate; among a variety of other reasons, the sole consideration, that I should, by that means, have

frequent occasions to make you remember me, was sufficient to determine my choice. Believe me, Sir, I speak to you without affectation or flattery, when I assure you, there is nothing I more ardently desire, than the continuation of your friendship; that is a sufficient substitute for all the rewards you wish me; it is a blessing which is only granted to those who have some merit, whereas rewards are often the portion of those who have none at all; if, then, they seek me, I am not so detached from the world as to refuse them; and in case they do not seek me, I am philosopher enough, and sufficiently worthy of your friendship, to console myself with it. I conjure you to have that opinion of me to believe this truth, as also, that I am, &c.

B.

From what has been told me as from you, I shall propose to the Queen, to dispatch the Earl of Scarisdale, whom she named, some months ago, her Envoy-extraordinary at Vienna. Her Majesty intending to recompense, at home, the good services which your friend Matthew has performed for her, will, in a short time, recal him for that purpose. His successor will be Mr. Ross, a man of quality, and much attached to your servants: he is a Lieutenant-general in her armies, and Colonel-general of dragoons. I should add, that it is only until she name an Ambassador.

To the Duke d'Aumont. (Page 332.)

From my Stable, October 21st, 1713.

AMONG dogs and horses, in the midst of the most profound retreat, I have nothing to wish for, to make me completely happy, but the conversation of the dear Duke d'Aumont. Since, apparently, I shall not see you for a long time, and perhaps never, let us occasionally write to each other.

You return to France, and I know how unnecessary it is to rouse you to the support of a good correspondence between our two nations. I swear that if I continue in future to labour as I have hitherto done, the principal inducement is my sincere desire to perfect and strengthen that union, which has been formed in spite of all the efforts
that

that malice could invent or execute. I believe you know me well enough to give credit to what I say.

Your relation will find in me a very sincere friend, and a faithful servant. I expect to give you an answer, by the Queen's order, to the letter you wrote to her Majesty, as soon as I return from Windsor.

My friends here well remember you, with all the esteem and tenderness which you merit; and your health shall never be omitted in any place where I make one of the company.

The cypher shall be sent you without fail. I answer for your satisfaction upon the assiento; but I will not answer, in like manner, for Monsieur Saintard.

Farewell, my dear Duke; I embrace you a thousand and a thousand times: may I cease to live when I cease to be, with perfect devotion, &c.

B.

Note. (Page 370.)

Minutes agreed upon between the Plenipotentiaries of Spain and Portugal at Utrecht.

THE colony du Sacrement shall be restored in the space of after the ratification of this treaty, to be possessed by the King of Portugal, in full propriety, as his Majesty possessed it immediately before the commencement of this war. But there shall be reserved for the King of Spain the power to offer to the King of Portugal an equivalent for the said colony, to the satisfaction of the King of Portugal; and there shall be allowed the term of to offer and examine the said equivalent: and in case the said offer be accepted, the colony shall be given in exchange to the King of Spain; if it is not accepted, the colony shall remain with the King of Portugal, as aforesaid.

With regard to the assiento and the ships, it is supposed that a composition might be agreed upon for the shipping, for all that is not liquidated in the assiento, as also for the inheritance of Don Francisco Bernardo; in like manner, for vessels taken from the Portuguese on account of the war: Portugal taking upon herself to satisfy the English merchant, Hodges, for his pretensions to the said shipping; it being well understood that the balance shall be paid.

With respect to the houses, reference shall be had to the 8th article of the treaty of 1668, which shall be again, confirmed; and ample justice shall be done, both in Spain and Portugal, to every one interested.

A term of four or five months shall be agreed upon for the restitution of Albuquerque, La Puebla, Hondar, the colony du Sacrement, and all other places seized upon by either party, in any quarter of the world, in the state they were in at the beginning of the war.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 397.)

MY LORD,

Versailles, December 14th, 1713.

DID I not know how much Monsieur d'Iberville wishes to please you, and to merit the honour of your esteem, I should not take the liberty to entreat your kindness for him, which he will certainly strive to deserve, I dare answer for him; and among many good qualities, which influenced the King's choice in his favour, the principal one with me is his respect for you, founded upon his personal and acquired knowledge of you. I have often had the pleasure to speak with him of you, and I reckoned when his Majesty selected him, that I should from him hear frequently of you. I desire nothing with more earnestness, than to hear, as I hope I shall, that you will always preserve for me some share in the honour of your friendship. You know, my Lord, how highly I value it; and I beg you to believe, that I am, &c.

DE TORCY.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 398.)

S I R,

Windfor, December 29th, 1713.

IT would be wrong to suffer Monsieur de la Faye to depart, without charging him with my very humble thanks, for giving me occasion to become acquainted with so honourable a man. I flatter myself that he is not altogether dissatisfied with me; it is certain I parted from him with regret. He will give you an account of his audience of the Queen, of what her Majesty said to him, and what I explained to him by her order: I therefore refer to what he will

will relate to you *vivâ voce*; and shall confine myself to say, that the affairs of commerce being fortunately settled, you may depend upon it, that the inclinations of people, in this country, will be as you could wish, and that the Queen will consequently be enabled to take vigorous measures to concur with the King in subduing the obstinacy of the Imperialists, and other enemies, to the repose of Europe. I am, &c.

B.

To the Count de Montijo. (Page 422.)

Whitehall, January 14th, 1713-14.

MY letters are of no great value, but still I regret much the loss of some of those, which I did myself the honour to write to you, my dear Count, since I cannot endure the thought that you should entertain the least suspicion, that length of time, or distance of situation, can cause any alteration in the sincere and endearing friendship which I have sworn to you, and which I will cherish through life. The bands of that friendship unite me so closely to you, that your good or ill fortune must, of necessity, regulate the happiness or misery of my lot. Judge, then, by this rule, of the joy I experienced, when I heard of the distinction the Catholic King paid to your merit, by giving you the Order of the Fleece. Such a favour will procure you the envy of many; and I hope their number will increase, because I hope the King will increase these proofs of his regard for you. It is said, that envy is never subdued till after death: that may be true in general; but the surest method, either to subdue it or to render its attacks vain and fruitless, is to justify the favours of a Prince by the brilliant display of our virtues, and the merit of faithful services. Such, my dear Count, will not be difficult to you, for God has given you every necessary ability to succeed, and every inclination to make a proper use of them.

The Princess Ursini will perhaps tell you what I have written on this subject; I should have done so if you had not mentioned it; but I must, once for all, require you never more to make an excuse for sending your orders to me. Such ceremony ill becomes the character of friend; and, besides, excuses are never necessary but when some-

thing disagreeable is asked; and you know that nothing in the world is so agreeable to me, as an opportunity of doing you service.

Lord Bingley, whom you knew here, when Mr. Benson and Chancellor of the Exchequer, is preparing with the utmost diligence for his embassy to Spain. He is one of our best subjects, and my intimate friend; as such I send him to you, and as such I beg you to receive him.

Farewel, my amiable Count; I am, &c.

B.

To the Princess Ursini. (Page 425.)

Whitehall, January 14th, 1713-14.

YOUR Highness will permit me to return you my very humble thanks, for your attention to the interests of Count de Lecheraine, whom I took the liberty to recommend to you. I fear I may be importunate, but I am more afraid of being ungrateful; and it were wrong to find oneself loaded with kind offices, and to be deficient in acknowledgment. Mine is very sincere, and very ardent; and your Highness may, on all occasions, dispose of me as a servant devoted to you, without reserve.

The letter which your Highness did me the honour to write, the 22d September, under the cover of which was the answer of her Majesty the Queen of Spain, to that of the Queen my mistress, did not reach me, by what accident I know not, till a short time since. We already knew of the happy delivery of the Queen, which caused much joy to us all. But, agreeable to the ordinary course of events in this world, sorrow quickly succeeded our joy; for in the midst of perfect health, and when we least expected so severe a blow, we found ourselves on the eve of losing the best Princess these kingdoms have ever known: in fact, the Queen was attacked with a violent fever, of which the first paroxysm lasted full thirty hours. Happily for us, and, I may say, for the rest of Europe, her Majesty had only two; since then the fever terminated in the gout, a painful disease indeed, but not dangerous, and much desired by the physicians.

Mr. Lawless, who is sensible of his obligations to your Highness, and who attends to your interest with all possible diligence, has imparted to me what has passed lately at the Hague, with regard to the sovereignty. I laid
the

the business before the Council, and the Queen has given her orders to the Earl of Strafford, who departs for Holland the first opportunity, in such a manner as your Highness could wish. As it is probable the States-General grounded their resolution on their advices from Rastadt, Mr. Prior, the Queen's Minister at the Court of France, is instructed to insist that nothing pass in the negociation for peace with the Emperor, that may be of prejudice to the pretensions of your Highness.

We must hope, that on one side the Most Christian King will give his firm support to an article which his Most Catholic Majesty has so much at heart, and on the other, that the States will reflect, that their barrier does not depend less upon the Queen's support than upon the consent of the Emperor. The Queen will certainly not forego engagements which she has undertaken with the Catholic King upon this business.

I cannot resolve to close this letter, without testifying to your Highness the extreme pleasure with which I learned that the King of Spain had honoured Count de Montijo with the Golden Fleece. By a letter which he did me the honour to write, this young Lord appears to me full of that gratitude which is due to so powerful a patroness as your Highness. I am, &c.

B.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 433.)

Versailles, January 28th, 1714.

IF there is any occasion, my Lord, to make you a compliment, it is upon the Queen's recovery. Let me assure you, that knowing your zeal, your heart, and your situation, I supposed I felt as you did; and if I was mistaken, it was, at most, because I was less a philosopher on your account than you are with respect to futurity. May God preserve this great Princess, and grant her the satisfaction of soon seeing the work of peace, which she has so urgently promoted, entirely completed. I should expect it, my Lord, if we could luckily find, out of England, such negociators as you; but if there be such in other parts of Europe, which I doubt, we must not attempt to find them at the Court of Vienna. That Court, in their place, furnishes plans and projects, which we cannot honour by calling them captious, its designs are too clearly discovered;

discovered: and we notice nothing on the part of those who draw up these plans, but the wish to be cunning, without the luck of gaining their point.

You will judge of them better than any person, when Monsieur d'Iberville has the honour to show you the preliminary project, which I send him, such as Prince Eugene presented to Marechal de Villars. It is not at all surprising that a great General should adopt a method of treating approved many years ago by him, and by another great General. Our Commander, more in the habit of gathering laurels than olive-branches, thinks that a Soldier little knows how to disguise the truth, and places in Prince Eugene the same confidence as I have in Lord Bolingbroke. We shall soon see the effect, which will probably be the rupture of the conferences at Rastadt. I could wish to see others opened with better prospects, and I shall never think so until the Queen and her Ministers have a share in them.

In the mean time, my Lord, I have recourse to you for another treaty of peace. Matthew is no less unjust than intolerable upon an article of which he is incessantly speaking to me, and of which you can judge better than any one: it is that of the three miserable sluices made at Dunkirk, at the expence of the country, before the places belonged to the King, and which they now wish to demolish, as being instrumental in clearing the harbour. It has been represented to Mr. Prior, there was no room to apprehend they could be of any use in that respect; that their destruction would be the ruin of the country: memorials, maps, plans, and every thing else have been tried, to convince him, without being able to subdue his obstinacy. You, my Lord, and you only, by your orders, can recal him to reason, which he has absolutely discarded upon this article, and I must say, you should do so, as much out of pity to him as for the honour of the Queen: and seriously, the justice and goodness of her Britannic Majesty are interested, not only not to demand, but even not to permit, this devastation, absolutely useless as to the object she has in view, and ruinous to the inhabitants of that unfortunate town, as well as to the country round about it,

I have seen you, my Lord, affected by such reasoning; you have since then been upon the spot. Let me intreat
you

you to silence Matthew, so that, instead of quarreling with each other, we may, for the time to come, only discourse upon your perfections. Upon this article we shall always agree, as I am, &c.

DE TORCY.

To the Count de Montéleon. (Page 458.)

SIR,

Whitehall, February 12th, 1713-14.

THE ceremonies of Saturday, the Queen's birth-day, and the business that occurred on Sunday, Council-day, prevented me the honour of writing to you, as I proposed, by the messenger who is now arrived at Utrecht, with the ratifications of the treaty of commerce. If I did not sooner resolve to answer your letter of the 2d ult. the reason was simply this, that I knew not in what manner to reply to it, until we were certain whether the treaty of commerce, such as we had signed it, would be ratified or not. I will always speak and write to you without reserve; and were it necessary to do otherwise with you, I own, Sir, I should find myself much embarrassed.

Don Patricio Lawless is my witness how much I was affected by the opposition you experienced in Holland; I nevertheless was of your opinion, that one is never duped when one acts with honour, justice, and probity: I comforted myself with the conviction, that, sooner or later, the King your master would do justice to your merit, and would see, in their true light, the great services you had rendered him. You know, Sir, my full persuasion that the interests of our two nations are inseparable; judge from that, as also from the friendship I promised you, and which I will ever entertain for you, how happy I was to learn that you are to return to us, and that I shall have the pleasure to labour conjointly with a Minister so well disposed and so enlightened as you are.

The rupture of the conferences at Rastadt, and the advices you have received of what passed between the two Generals, will have made you master of several things which appeared doubtful to you. It is certain that in Holland, and elsewhere, they believed France would make certain sacrifices to obtain a peace; and it is not surprising if people, who, for many reasons, wish to observe great regard for the Emperor, should dread to stipulate
any

any thing offensive to that Prince, and which, in their opinion, France might overlook in her treaty with him; but at present we have reason to hope, that the Councils of the States will view the conduct of his Imperial Majesty in another light, and will see that the dispute is not about something more or less for the Elector of Bavaria, and for the Princess Ursini, but the object is either to overturn all that has been done at Utrecht, out of courtesy to the House of Austria, or to force the Emperor to make a peace, so as to complete the system to which so many other powers, by their treaties, have consented. When the Ministers of Holland reflect in this manner, I cannot suppose they will copy the politics of Vienna, and put off their peace with Spain, until his Imperial Majesty thinks proper to conclude his with France.

The exchange of the ratifications of our treaties will contribute not a little to dispose the minds of the Hollanders to conclude with you; and I reckon my Lord Strafford will exert himself to this purpose in the most effectual manner. He will communicate to you the Queen's last orders, upon the pretensions of the Princess Ursini. You will see, Sir, by her Majesty's whole conduct, that she never loses sight of her engagements; she prides herself upon being a faithful ally. The Catholic King will find her such with respect to him, and, consequently, he ought not to take it ill, if she firmly supports the interests of a Prince, with whom she has the most solemn engagements; and who, as you know, Sir, in consideration of the Queen, gave up many pretensions, which, without doubt, would have embarrassed the negociation, and have protracted the conclusion of the peace. You judge, Sir, I mean the King of Portugal; and I address myself the rather to you, than to any other Minister upon this subject, because you have witnessed that when the Queen resolved to sign with France, and to propose that the Ministers of Spain should be admitted to the Congress, it was upon the full confidence that, the King of Portugal renouncing all pretensions upon the continent of Spain, the peace should be made upon the plan which, at that time, was sent to you by the Earl of Dartmouth. You contributed to finish this negociation by minutes concerted at Utrecht, but the notes drawn up at Madrid made your good intentions fruitless.

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Let me refer you to what I have written to Don Patricio Lawless on this subject, and let me conjure you to labour seriously to draw this thorn out of our side. As for the rest, Sir, you cannot arrive here sooner than we wish you should. You will find the Earl of Oxford and me, constant to our former opinion, and the Queen has directed me to assure you, she shall be well pleased to see you. I am, &c.

B.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 463.)

Verfailles, February 7th, 1714.

MESSIEURS Anison and Fenelon, who have had the honour to be known to you, Sir, are setting out directly for London, with directions and dispositions to enter upon and to execute their commission to the mutual satisfaction and advantage of the two nations. I request for them the continuance of your kind attention, and am, &c.

DE TORCY.

To the Princess Ursini. (Page 477.)

MADAM,

Whitehall, February 19th, 1714.

IT is with the most sincere and lively affection, that I take up the pen to condole with you upon the death of your great Queen. I venture to assure your Highness, that this melancholy event has banished all the joy we experienced at the recovery of our Queen, and at the exchange of the ratifications lately effected at Utrecht. As your Highness was a nearer witness than any other person, of the virtues of this great Princess, and enjoyed her entire confidence and friendship, so must you feel, more than any one, the loss which Spain and Europe has met with. I dare not be longer importunate, and confine myself to the expression of my wishes, that your Highness may meet with every consolation under such extreme affliction. I am, &c.

B.

To the Duke d'Aumont. (Page 478.)

MY DEAR DUKE,

Whitehall, March 1st, 1713.

IF I have not sooner answered your letter of December, it was, because, I have been always in expectation of something

something capable of affording you amusement, or worthy of your attention. But as nothing of this nature has hitherto offered, I thought it wrong to defer any longer my humble thanks for all the favours you conferred upon me, for the friendship you preserve for me, and for the flattering manner in which you spoke of me to the King. You are acquainted with the sentiments of a heart, in which you have such a share: and you know, Sir, that I am very capable of not acting at all, and of clothing my indolence with the honourable pretext of philosophy, yet I am incapable of acting against these sentiments even on the most trifling occasion. Ambition can attain very few things in this country, and since your departure, I feel the relish for pleasure considerably diminished: provided you are contented with me upon the first of these two articles, I am sure you will not be discontented upon the last. Ought I not to compliment you upon the fortunate catastrophe of the negociation at Rastadt? It appears to us here, who only examine these affairs at a distance, that the Emperor cannot resolve to conclude one war, without laying the foundation for another. This letter will be safely delivered to you, since I send it by a man belonging to me, and who is going to bring back young Villars, whom his mother carried off in so extraordinary a manner, attended with circumstances so offensive to the Queen. You will recollect what her Majesty said to you on this business; since you left us it became more serious, and I dare assure you, that the imprudence of Lady Jersey, might have occasioned much harm to many people of your religion.

Wherever I am, the Duke d'Aumont shall certainly not be forgotten; may he in like manner bear me in his remembrance, and be assured, that I shall be as long as I live, &c.

B.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 480.)

Verfailles. February 25th, 1714.

THE gift of persuasion is attached, my Lord, to the desire to execute the Queen's orders, and to the eagerness to please you. I have just experienced it, and have found Lady Jersey ready to send her son back to England, as soon as she knew in what manner the Queen had lately spoken to

to Monsieur d'Iberville on the subject, and what you have since added. This resolve, however, costs her many a tear, but she thinks obedience a duty to be preferred to every other consideration. Her dependence is entirely upon you, my Lord, and upon your protection of her son. She begs you to take care of him, according to your promise, to superintend his education, to direct that an account be given you of it, to have him with you at holiday-time, in a word, to hold the place of a father to him, and to revive, in the person of this child, all the friendship you had for the late Earl of Jersey.

Though she was to give me a letter for you, my Lord, I fulfil my promise to her, by delivering the commission with which she intrusted me to you.

I would willingly suppress our complaints against Matthew; his zeal and eagerness to execute your orders, and those of my Lord Treasurer, have made him hateful to Lady Jersey, and, happen what will, she will not commit her son to him. She desires you will send some person to Paris, to whom she will confide him, being certain he will be in good hands, provided he be delivered to a man chosen by you. She desires, as the last favour, that neither Lord Lansdown, nor his Lady, have any concern in the education of the little Villars, placing her entire confidence in you alone, my Lord, and in the Queen's goodness.

I hope you will grant all these conditions, and that this negociation will be less difficult to conclude than that of Rastadt.

Monsieur d'Iberville will have the honour to give you an account of the last orders sent to Marechal de Villars. They will finish the peace, if we could persuade the Germans to be more tractable, but there are people who revolt against justice and reason, and are only made docile by fear. It appears to me, that we could easily put in practice this last expedient, when the good understanding between the King and the Queen is perfected; and I would be answerable, my Lord, for the success of the instructions you should give on that head.

Let me tell you, then, Monsieur Buys has already quoted to me, *res est solliciti*; you told me what to answer, but I admire more than ever your presence of mind and composure, without being able to imitate them.

I assure you, my Lord, it is always with the same pleasure

sure I call to mind every thing I have heard you say, and am not singular in regretting the shortness of time we enjoyed your company here. I am, &c.

DE TORCY.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 483.)

Versailles, February 25th, 1714.

THOUGH I make no doubt, Sir, that Monsieur de Legondez, Colonel of the King's cavalry, will obtain from you the consideration he truly deserves, I hope you will think me right, in declaring the real interest I have in what concerns him, and request of you the good offices and protection, which his affairs in England, where he married, may require. I will share with pleasure in his obligations to you, and I beg of you to believe, &c.

DE TORCY.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 485.)

Whitehall, March 1st, 1713-14.

THE news you have taken the trouble to impart to me, Sir, in your letter of the 25th ult. gives me a pleasure, which, like the gratitude I feel, I cannot express. In restoring to us the little fugitive, whom his mother, through excess of tenderness, was going to ruin beyond recovery, you do an action worthy of you. Were there gratitude among the dead, or could they communicate their thoughts, you would have the respects of the late Earl of Jersey; but, as that cannot be, be pleased to accept of mine, in quality of friend and relation to the house of Villars.

Lady Jersey may rely, and I entreat you, Sir, to be on this occasion my guarantee, that I will neglect nothing in my power, in the education of her son, and his advancement. The person I have selected to receive him is my equerry, an honest man, and for whom I dare be answerable in any manner. I hope Lady Jersey will immediately give her son to his care, for I have ordered him to hasten his return.

I am, Sir, entirely convinced, that there are people who are to be made tractable only through fear, and that the good understanding subsisting between the two Courts enables us to employ that expedient very usefully; but is it possible you can stand in need of it to conclude your treaty

treaty with the Emperor? ought I not, on the contrary, to give you joy on the happy conclusion of the conferences at Rastadt? The Emperor, in making the peace, seems, indeed, to sow the seeds of new troubles, and perhaps it would not be wrong, even now, to employ the motive of fear, to stop the progress of those noble designs, which the council of Spain established at Vienna, who has nothing else to do, are, at present, amusing themselves in bringing forward.

Your compliment, Sir, is very flattering to me; but it is certain, that if I ever do any good, it is while I am animated by your orders, and assisted by your councils.

I say nothing of our home affairs. M. d'Iberville, in whom I repose such a confidence as you wish, is able to give you all the explanations you may require. I believe, he says enough to show you, that we merit your pity rather than your censure, if affairs here do not go on as we could wish. I am, &c.

B.

To the Princess Ursini. (Page 515.)

MADAM,

Whitehall, April 23d, 1714.

HAD the war unfortunately lasted till now, such was our opinion of your incomparable Queen, that, I dare assure your Highness, her death would have been lamented in no country with greater sincerity than in Great Britain. From this you may judge of our sorrow in losing a Princess who had not only contributed to make the peace, but from whose influence we promised ourselves the entire accomplishment of the strict union, which the providence of God permitted to be interrupted, only to prove more clearly, both to Spaniards and Britons, how much it is their interest to preserve it entire, and to prevent its receiving any shock from the broils of the rest of Europe.

It is not proper for me to speak to your Highness of the Queen's sentiments on this melancholy occasion; her Majesty, writing herself to the Catholic King, will describe her reflections on the past, and her views in future, better than I can possibly do. But your Highness will please to allow me to say two words upon a subject of which Mr. Lawless is informed, and concerning which he will have the

the honour to write to you more at large." Your Highness will recollect, that we have often represented from hence, the alarm we were in, lest different treaties and agreements, not being perfected, and consequently the general negotiation still too open, the Imperial Court, and the other enemies of the peace, without, and the faction leagued with them, within the kingdom, should, in time, find means to raise new impediments to the restoration of the general quiet. In fact, during the last session of Parliament, they laboured to this purpose with wonderful assiduity, and exerted their utmost efforts to divert the Queen from the pursuit of those measures which she had adopted, and which had been, for more than three years, the uniform object of her endeavours. They were unsuccessful, all their schemes miscarried, and the two Houses gave their opinion upon the peace, and upon the most proper means to make it general, in so decisive a manner, that the Queen, if I dare use the expression, finds herself, more than ever, mistress of her actions.

In the heat of this contest, an occurrence happened which gave her Majesty much uneasiness. There are times when endeavours are made to inflame the minds of the people by supposed designs on foot in favour of the Chevalier de St. George. The residence of Mr. Lawless at our Court was alledged as a fact in support of these suspicions. The conduct of that gentleman has been irreproachable; he has deserved the esteem and confidence of all honourable men; and even those who were the most forward on this occasion, could not withhold the praise that was due to his character. But he was born a subject of the Queen, and had served her deceased father. Your Highness, unaccustomed to those convulsions, which popular governments experience from time to time, will perhaps be surprised at the account I give you. These disorders are the bad effects of a very good cause, and we are indemnified by the one, for what we suffer by the other. The Queen, to quiet the public mind, and to gain the object she proposed, thought this pretence, of which our faction availed themselves, should be removed; but the regard she has for the Catholic King, and which she wishes ever to preserve, embarrassed her much.

In this situation of affairs, I took upon me to open the business to Mr. Lawless. As he knows perfectly well the

the constitution of this kingdom, and the genius of the people, he agreed with me, that he should do the Queen an essential service, and consequently should not displease the King his master, if he pretended to have received orders from Court to repair to the Spanish Ministers in Holland. I cannot express to your Highness how much the Queen felt at this mark of his prudence and zeal for the service. She has directed me to write upon it to your Highness, and to beg you will continue to Mr. Lawless your powerful protection, of which he is every way worthy.

Lord Bingley, whom the Queen has nominated her Ambassador-extraordinary to the King of Spain, will set off in a week. The Queen wishes for nothing so much as the establishment of such a correspondence with his Catholic Majesty as is rarely met with among Princes; and, for this purpose, she has selected the most proper person of her whole Court. On the subject of the Catalans and Majorcans, your Highness will allow me to refer to what Lord Bingley will have the honour to tell you. With regard to the sovereignty, the Queen will, at the congress at Baden, and every where else, use the most effectual means to accomplish her promise; and provided France will, though in ever so small a degree, continue firm upon this article, I doubt not it will be accomplished to your Highness's satisfaction in the ensuing treaty. I am, &c.

B.

To the Marquis de Montéleon. (Page 519.)

S I R,

Whitehall, April 27th, 1714.

THE indisposition under which I have for some days laboured, not only prevents my writing to you with my own hand, but will also oblige me to be more brief than I intended, upon the present posture of our affairs. Mr. Lawless, who is going to join you, will amply supply this deficiency. You will, perhaps, be surprized at seeing him, but when you have heard his account of what has passed here, and his reasons for resolving to repair to Holland, I am persuaded you will be of opinion, that he has acted like a man of sense, and, by contributing to the fortunate close of our Session of Parliament, he has done an essential service to his master. In those governments where there is a portion of democracy, it very often becomes reasonable

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to yield to unreasonable demands; and in order to carry the bulk of affairs forward to the object we propose, it is sometimes necessary to pacify the public mind by compliances which are neither prudent nor becoming. I am writing to a Minister conversant in the affairs of the world, so that I doubt not you will form a proper judgment of what has happened, and will make such a representation to your Court of this mischance, which certainly must be more grievous to us than to you.

The easy and compliant conduct of France, at the conferences at Rastadt, has certainly made the Emperor assume an air of superiority, ill-proportioned to the state he is in; and, after this, it is no wonder that the Dutch display the most extravagant signs of submission to the House of Austria.

You mention an instance of this submissive conduct in respect to the sovereignty of the Princess Ursini; I could mention many others, in which they treat the Queen, at least, as cavalierly as the King of Spain; and in which, in order to make their court to the Emperor, they sacrifice the interests of their religion, and those of Europe in general. Endeavours must be made to suggest other sentiments to the Ministers of that Republic; and to succeed, means must be found to make the Court of Vienna more tractable; let me frankly tell you, that for this purpose, your Court must be more compliant and mine more firm; try to effect the one, while I am labouring to accomplish the other.

Lord Bingley leaves us for Madrid, in seven or eight days; in the name of God let the King place some confidence in him. He will be empowered to make overtures for a more close connection between our two Courts, and to propose certain measures, which, if I am not mistaken, will, in spite of the obstinacy of some, and the compliance of others, terminate every thing to the satisfaction of his Catholic Majesty. In the mean time, the Earl of Strafford will make another application to the Ministers of the States; and the Queen will avail herself as far as she can, of the towns entrusted to her, and of the cession of the Netherlands made to her, by the Elector of Bavaria, to secure that sovereignty for the Princess Ursini, which the King of Spain wishes she should enjoy.

Let

Let me know when we are to expect to see you here, and do me the justice to believe, that I am, &c.

B.

Note. (Page 564.)

The Bishop of Bristol to Baron de Begue.

S I R,

Utrecht, November 8th, 1713.

I EMBRACE, with pleasure, every opportunity to testify my respect, and to assure you of a faithful return of that friendship you professed for me when at Utrecht. Her Majesty, the Queen of Great Britain, whom I have the honour to serve, finding that the Pretender to her crown has not yet left the territory of his Highness the Duke your master, notwithstanding repeated applications for that purpose, has commanded me to desire you would represent to his Highness, the dangers that may be apprehended to her Majesty and her kingdoms, as also the Protestant succession, in case the said person continue any longer to reside there, and how little such protection accords with the friendship and good understanding which subsist between the Queen and his Highness. When I have the honour to meet you, I can explain this business more fully, and bring to your recollection some late addresses of Parliament to her Majesty, as also other considerations, which, I am persuaded, are so well known to you, that being represented to his Highness, by a minister so much esteemed and so well affected as the Baron de Begue, will not fail of the desired effect, namely, that the said Pretender be no longer suffered to reside in the dominions of the Duke your master.

I am, &c.

JOHN BRISTOL.

Baron le Begue to the Bishop of Bristol.

MY LORD,

Hague, November 13th, 1713.

I RECEIVED the honour of your Excellency's letter of the 8th instant, this morning, which I will dispatch to his Royal Highness to-morrow, and as soon as I know his intentions, I will communicate them to you, without fail. In the mean time, my Lord, I must beg of you to recollect,

T t 2

that

that when the Chevalier de St. George came to reside at Bar, I was ordered to inform you, that his Royal Highness my master would not have afforded him an asylum, but at the pressing instance of the Court of France, which even engaged his Royal Highness to solicit passports as well from the Imperial Court as from the States-General for his security: at present, my Lord, I do not know that the instances you mention were repeated, or that my master is at liberty to send out of his dominions a Prince, whom he received only at the request of the Most Christian King. This, my Lord, I submit to your Excellency's prudence. I am, &c.

T. LE BEGUE.

Copy of his Royal Highness the Duke of Lorrain's Letter to Baron Le Begue, his Minister at the Hague.

S I R,

November 17th, 1713.

I RECEIVED your letter of the 11th instant, this morning, inclosing that of the Lord Bishop of Bristol from Utrecht, with a copy of your answer, which I approve of. I own my surprise at the demand of his Excellency, and my intention is, that you should reply, that having nothing more at heart than to preserve the Queen's favour and goodness for me, I will lose no opportunity of deserving them, but that with respect to the demand, that I should remove the Chevalier de St. George from my dominions, I can make no other answer, than that, with the knowledge and consent of all Europe, he came to reside in my dominions, which being a neutral country, are open to all the world; that even the Emperor granted him a passport for that purpose, with this restriction, not to depart thence; and I have nothing more to reply, these reasons being considered as substantial. I hope the Bishop of Bristol will continue his friendship towards me, and by his good offices with the Queen preserve for me the honour of her protection, which I most ardently desire.

LEOPOLD.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 576.)

SIR,

Whitehall, July 29th, 1714.

THOUGH I have just written largely to Messrs. d'Iberville and Prior, the Queen is desirous I should avail myself of this messenger, to communicate to you her surprise and vexation, caused by the reports which have for some time prevailed here. It is asserted, that the Catholic King will no longer abide by his renunciations, nor the engagements he is under to prevent the re-union of the two monarchies. It is asserted, that Cardinal di Guidice is actually treating on this business at the Court of France; and it is added, which I will never believe, that he has obtained acts and declarations, contrary to what has been regulated by the treaties of Utrecht in this respect. These reports make a greater impression, inasmuch as they are confirmed by advices received by her Majesty. I will not say to you, Sir, that after an attempt of this nature, the most solemn stipulations will, in future, be of no consequence; neither will I enter into a discussion of the fatal consequences attendant on the infraction of an article which forms the basis of the peace, that would, in some measure, suppose these reports and advices were well founded: I will confine myself, Sir, to represent to you the necessity of quieting mens' minds, upon a point of such importance. The peace is not yet general, and nothing can contribute so much to throw difficulties in the way of the treaties, which remain to be made, as to see the infraction of those which are already concluded.

I flatter myself that I shall soon receive your answer, and be by it enabled to give the Queen entire satisfaction.

I am, &c.

B.

To the King. (Page 581.)

SIRE,

Whitehall, August 3rd, 1714.

THOUGH I dread being importunate, I can no longer defer a compliance with my inclination, and a discharge of my duty.

I therefore take the liberty, amid the acclamations of
your

your people, to testify to your Majesty, the joy I feel on becoming the subject of so great a Prince.

The same spirit actuates every one; and those factions which were accustomed to disturb this government, seem to have died away. God grant that your Majesty's wisdom and resolution may prevent their revival!

With regard to myself, I venture to intreat your Majesty to be persuaded, that the same principles of honour and conscience, which induced me to serve the late Queen until her death, with constancy and fidelity, will inviolably bind me to your Majesty, and that, whether at Court, in Parliament, or in my County, I will endeavour, at all times, and in all places, to deserve the title of,

Sire, your Majesty's

Very humble, faithful, and obedient servant,

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 585.)

SIR,

Whitehall, August 19th, 1714.

AFTER so severe a blow as I have just now experienced, the greatest consolation I could hope for, was the continuance of your friendship, of which you repeat the assurance in the letter which you troubled yourself to write to me.

I will strive to deserve it, whatever be my situation, and to submit to my fate, be it what it may, in such a manner, as to induce you never to retract your good opinion of me.

I am, and shall be, as long as life endures, with inviolable attachment, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

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THE END.

